# OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT



# EXECUTIVE BRANCH FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT



WINTER COUNCIL SESSION JANUARY 2022

### NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

## WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

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### Department of Diné Education

## WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

Following the reopening of schools in the fall and the return of students and staff to the classroom, the Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education's (DODE) main priority for Q1 of Fiscal Year 2022 was monitoring schools across the Navajo Nation were adhering to their approved reopening, which also included safety guidelines that each school would adhere to.

As part of keeping schools open, the Department established and continues a collaboration and partnership with the Navajo Nation Health Commands Operation Center (NHCOC) under the Navajo Department of Health (NDOH) to monitor COVID-19 exposures and cases within schools pursuant to Public Health Emergency Order 2021-019.

Reports and results of exposures within schools are posted online at the NDOH COVID-19 portal on aweekly basis. This means the results are readily available for the public.

The importance of clear communication between Navajo schools and DODE is continually exercised through weekly school leadership meetings, where DODE staff, Office of the President and Vice President (OPVP) staff, and NDOH leaders meet virtually to inform participants of new developments within schools or that will impact schools.

Acting Superintendent of Schools Patricia Gonnie provides weekly updates about the state of education on the Navajo Nation as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer are given an opportunity to inform and advise school leaders on new safety developments and to encourage school leaders to engage with their students and their families to keep their communities safe.

The CDC and Navajo Nation Epidemiology Center provide updates on COVID-19 statistics and developments on new prevention tips and urge participants to be cautious.

School leaders have a weekly opportunity to ask questions of the public health teams and receive answers in these meetings as well.

DODE and the Navajo Nation Board of Education held a second in-person joint work session of the season in Albuquerque from Oct. 28-29.

The Board hosted a 12-hour work session that contained a discussion on the state of education by Transform Education NM, along with additional discussion on the history of the Department, and important statistics on the state of education on the Navajo Nation. These conversations built off the discussions that were held at the previous work session held in August.

As with the previous session, work session participants participated in numerous team-building exercises to share their input on the direction and vision of the Department and evaluated the Department's position within the Navajo Nation by examining education through multiple perspectives.

The work session concluded by agreeing to determine a location for the next work session. A one-day session is currently scheduled for Jan. 21.

Also in October, DODE hosted New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) Secretary DesignateKurt Steinhaus at the Navajo Education Center in Window Rock. The visit was arranged as part of a series of education-related visits the Secretary made throughout the Navajo Nation in October.

Superintendent Gonnie, Navajo Board of Education members, and DODE Program Managers spoke with the Secretary throughout the morning of Oct. 18, detailing the challenges on the Navajo Nation and how a spirit of cooperation with NMPED would benefit both parties.

The Secretary stated in return the Navajo Nation could assist with developing the curriculum in NewMexico to better accommodate their students.

In November, Superintendent Gonnie participated in an MSNBC roundtable discussion hosted by Ali Velshi as part of Native American Heritage Month. The Superintendent spoke about the importance of a changing education and how the significance of Native American history deserves to be mentioned and taught in schools and not disregarded or disavowed.

Then in December, DODE was informed the Navajo Nation was a recipient of the American IndianResilience in Education grant for \$1.3 million paid out over three years.

The project submitted by DODE's Office of Education Research and Statistics (OERS), entitled "The CRRProject: Culture, Resilience, and Responsiveness: Supporting Navajo Nation Students, Teachers, SchoolLeaders, and Parents," discussed the importance of learning opportunities to increase Navajo cultural knowledge and understanding for teachers and administrators, along with socio-emotional learning of students, and to build and enhance Navajo traditional values within schools and communities.

#### Current Priorities:

The Department remains committed to maintaining a safe learning environment for students and staff. With the announcement of a new variant on the Navajo Nation and cases rising in surrounding states, the Department and its partners urge the public to remain cautious.

As part of this goal, DODE continues working with NDOH to share COVID-19 data to schools on a weeklybasis. These Departments also collaborated with OPVP to raise awareness of school/community vaccination events now the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were approved for children over the age of 5, granting extra protection to students along with following the safety guidelines.

Then for staff development, the Department aims to welcome in, approval from the Navajo Nation Council pending, a new full-time Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Harold G. Begay. After approval by the Navajo Board of Education in 2021, the item went throughout the Navajo Nation Council and is set for discussion in early January.

In November, the Navajo Education Center faced a setback when its heating system went out and the boiler system required a full replacement. Once the month turned and winter arrived, the building became too cold and was deemed unsafe to inhabit by the Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The replacement system is set for arrival in January, but the Department is aiming to follow the heating system work with extensive maintenance throughout the facility through ARPA funds. Electrical lines, sewage, and upgrades to the building structure are part of the current plans.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY2021 Quarterly Budget Report

Department Name.	Department of Dine C	ducation						
Date Submitted:	6-Jan-22							
Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External		Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budge Vacancies
General Fund	Department of Dine' Education	October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022	\$1,041,405.00	\$1,041,405.00	\$942,747.24	84%	12	5

#### Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance/Higher Education Grant Program

The goals of ONNSFA are to continue to provide financial aid services to Navajo families pursuing college including vocational education. This service requires a team of dedicated personnel at the Agency offices including central employees. It also requires reliable Internet and a working online database for students to submit their applications in and ONNSFA to process the dataport for payments to colleges on behalf of students - the contract for these services expire on December 3I5¹ so they have to be renewed before the end of the year. In addition, to provide financial aid services, funding is needed, so the BIA contract expires also in December 3I5¹ and in the process of renewal. We also need a working Navajo government system so we are able to pay bills in a timely manner and we do not accrue late fees, because we are not able to pay latefees with federal funds.

ONNSFA services continue at 100% with all dedicated personnel at work processing financial aid applications for students and answering questions on the phone or by email. ONNSfA officeswere open to the last day of work in 2021. This is-identified as a major accomplishment because Personnel Action For'ms of external funded programs do not always get processed on time at DPM causing break in service for employees-ONNSFA was able to get all personnel documents in place before the CY ended and continue operations on extended budgets.

Full operations includes having reliable Internet. ONNSFA is 100 percent reliant on the Internet. ONNSFA's contract with NTUA was processed through 2 NNC 164 and it is signed by the President as advised by the ONNSFA Staff Assistant. The contract negotiation was a lengthy process, but it is in place now.

Full ONNSFA operations also includes use of the EMPOWER database, which is used to applyfor funding, manage aid codes, extract and analyze data, process decisions on student files as well as processing the financial aid awards and sending the dataport to the Controller's staff to print the checks. Students also use the database to access their files and upload files into the database to meet requirements of scholarship and financial assistance. The contract for use ofthe Database is signed by the Navajo Nation and ComSpec International, Inc.

P. L. 93-638 Contract with the BIA, Navajo Regional Office is approved for five years, including the Annual Funding Agreement which was awarded \$2.3 million.

Full operations include availability of offices space. ONNSFA Crownpoint and Chinle are located in leased offices spaces. The office space leases are renewed so the offices will remain in the same location.

Navajo families are invested in their children's higher education, so college impacts family finances. Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance funded about 1,437 students. Most of students and their families were able to continue their college and vocationaleducation regardless of the challenges of the pandemic. Below are the numbers of students assisted by ONNSFA Agency.

The Chief Manuelito Scholarship awards ceremony was held virtually to recognize and award 133 high achieving high school graduates who took too semesters of Navajo Language and Navajo government courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and an ACT scores of 21 or higher.

#### **CHALLENGES**

ONNSFA received more than 9,000 applications, so funding everyone that applies for funding to ONNSFA is always a challenge. Many students were denied.

Getting contracts through the review process to procure services to prepare the video for Facebook virtual ceremony was a challenge as reviewers change the rules as they please.

Paying bills is always a challenge. Fully executed contracts to deliver the Facebook virtual ceremony is in place, but it took forever to get contract numbers assigned and the vendor hasnot been paid yet.

The greatest challenge to Navajo government services is the severe lack of concern for the Navajo people by indirect service providers. Direct services rely on a well functioning operations to deliver direct services to the Navajo people. We cannot deliver effectively when our bills are not paid on time.

Another example of the challenges of the Navajo government is that services related to Personnel department not processing documents in a timely manner. We've had a position reclassification in the process for more than 4 months. DPM also did not respond to my questionabout how they determined two people qualified for a supervisory position when the applicants did not have supervisory experience.

The challenge to Navajo government services is also in reviewing documents through the 2NNC 164 process and how we were force change the format of the agreement causing more delays.

We are also forced to wait for OOC to assign a contract number to a fully executed contract. This happens when OOC reviewers decide whether a document is not legal, which is not authority of OOC.

No heat in the building, it's at 52 degrees: A major challenge to delivery of direct services is the poor state of the Navajo Education Center, which is a fairly new building compared to manyfacilities; however, due to the lack of maintenance the building is in poor state. The boiler went out early last year. We used small electric heating, but heaters can't be on high.

Department Name: Date Submitted:	Office of the Navajo Natio	n Scholarship & Financial	Assistance					
E'e_n_bl.'P,r_lorYe,ar		T					Budgeted Positions	Current Budg
Seneral	NN Teacher Educ	10/1/21-9/30/22	369,086.00	369,086.00	225,888.00	61%	0	0
Navajo Nation -Set Aside	Schshp,& Fin. Asst.	10/1/21-9/30/22	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	2,166,129.61	62%	0	0
rust Fund	Graduate Schshp	10/1/21 9/30/22	831,957.00	831,957.00	539,380.60	65%	0	0
rust Fund	Tucson G&E Schshp	10/1/21-9/30/22	58,768.00	58,768.00	34,768.00	59%	0	0
Trust Fund	NECA Schahp	10/1/21-9/30/22	100,898.00	100,898.00	87,398.00	87%	0	0
Sales Tax Schshp	Sales Tax Schshp	10/1/21-9/30/22	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	2,427,828.50	81%	0	0
rust Fund	Vocational	10/1/21-9/30/22	190,295.00	190,295.00	107,955.00	57%	0	0
External	Corporate Funds	10/1/21-9/30/22	114	1,809,324.41	1,227,715.41	68%	0	0
xternal	CY'20 Higher Education	01/01/20 - 12/31/21	2,986,804.00	13,863,436.00	426,909.60	3%	0	0
External	CY'21 Higher Education	01/01/21- 12/31/22	13,495,397.00	13,740,817.00	1,828,894.05	13%	30	4
							8	

#### Office of Standards, Assessment, and Curriculum Development

To plan & coordinate with other Department of Dine Education program, Dine College &Navajo Technical College in providing resources related to Dine language, culture, history, government and character building.

Promote & create publish instructional materials and testing instruments for the teaching of Navajo language & culture.

Develop & revise the Dine Content Standards & Assessments for inclusion in the DineSchool Accountability Plan.

Monitor the Navajo Nation Bilingual Proficiency Seal for 12<sup>th</sup> graders while revisingcriteria and manual.

Coordinate & implement the Navajo Traditional Apprenticeship Project.

OSCAD has been awarded 5 grants (4 grants from NMPED & 1 ARP grant from DOI) for FY21-22 for the following projects to enhance & improve the teaching of Navajo language& culture:

- a. Develop a Dine Curriculum Framework for Navajo language & culture instructions.
- b. Develop digital materials & resources for teachers & students
- c. Preparing for the revision of the five Dine Content Standards & a feasibility study anassessment specific to the standards for the Dine School Accountability Plan.
- 2. Preparing and compiling the necessary paperwork, announcement, etc. for the Navajo Bilingual SEAL assessment for 12<sup>th</sup> graders across Navajo Nation to begin February 2022.
- 3. Recruitment for Traditional Practitioners & Apprentices is on-going.

OSCAD was awarded NMPED funding in the amount of \$999,999.99 to develop digital resources & materials to be used by teachers to enhance and improve the learning of the Navajolanguage & culture.

OSCAD was awarded ARP funding from Administration for Native American in the amount of \$82,706.00 to develop a Dine Curriculum Framework by AZ/NM Teachers.

OSCAD was awarded \$82,700.00 from NMPED to develop and obtain resources and materials for schools across the Navajo Nation

OSCAD was awarded \$150,000.00 to develop an educational tool boxs that will supplymaterial, resources, etc. for teachers on and near the Navajo Nation.

### Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report

Department Name:	OSCAD/DODE			
Date Submitted:	30-Dec-21			

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Fund	OSCAD	10/01/21-09/30/22	\$622,000.00	\$622,000.00	\$610,000.00	91.00%	7	3
							1	
							2	

#### Navajo Nation Library

- Our quarterly goal the quarter and next quarter is to have 2,500-3,000 patrons use our services. In the fiscal year about 10,000 12,000. Whether they checkout books, use theinternet or the print services, we are looking to bring patrons back into the library.
- Promoting the Navajo Nation Library through digital means (social media and website promotion), hosting our read aloud through our digital presence, upgrade/update ourgraphic collateral around the library. Invest into

- new signage around the library, have abanner for the library, and hope to hang iconography around the AZ state highway to show that there is a library in Window Rock.
- In the fiscal year, we would like to add 10,000 titles to our digital collection, we are talking with OverDrive and bibliotheca (cloudLibrary) to see which vendor will provide us a better deal, therefore, we can establish and expand on the Navajo Nation Digital Librarythat will services the Chapter House Libraries, as our own branded content will help us keep better statistics and data to show how many chapters are using the digital resources.
  - The Navajo Nation Library would like to host 4 read aloud per quarter with the Office of Miss Navajo Nation, Office of the First Lady and Second Lady, and the Office of the President and Vice President. We want to promote literacy through the readaloud eventsthat we hope can garner support from the Navajo Nation and emphasize our presence too.
- The JVA listing for the positions of Community Library Manager and Librarian are still at NN Department of Personnel Management, the original changes, forms, and supporting documents were sent to DPM in June 2021. So far, no updates or means to push the positions forward so the Program Supervisor I will turn into the Community Library Manager and the Office Specialist into the Librarian position. We hope DPM will make the changes during the FY22.
- The Navajo Nation Chapter Libraries are coming online each day, we hope to get the chapter personnel into the training modules that have been setup by the State of ArizonaLibrary, and soon, the State of New Mexico Library
- We have made contact with vendors to provide digital books, audiobooks, magazines, and education video stream for the Navajo Nation Library, so far we have spoken to OverDrive as one potential vendor and the other is cloudLibrary. Both have offered their pros/cons.
- We started talks with various vendors to procure a new cataloging and discovery system. Bothwill enhance the library's interworkings to better understand what we have in our collection, provide accurate records, both will show up-to-date information for patrons to see what we have in our physical and digital collection, and the intuitive systems will be less of a hassle for current and future staff members to use.
- The State of NM Library has allocated \$300,000 to the Navajo Nation Library to focus on linguistic and cultural after-school and summer programming, we have contacted the Office of Standards, Curriculum, and Assessment Development to assist in our language programming and exploring language acquisition and after school language programs for K-12 students. We have also looked at possibly implementing a language nest approach much like the Maori and Hawaiian to help Early Childhood language acquisition. We are certainly open and hope to get started once we get the funds.
- We have successfully interviewed and found a candidate for the Torreon Community Library, the position has gone unfulfilled for nearly 4 years. We hope her paperwork will check out and we can bring them on during the second quarter.
- Hosted a Trunk Or Treat event on 10/29/21 and partnered with Navajo Nation Departmentsand Programs.

  Distributed 1,015 books of all ages through the Trunk or Treat event and books were provided by the State of Arizona Library and Scholastic books to distribute as part of the 'Library at Home' program.
- We had received \$16,000 from the Navajo Nation Council to establish our Early Childhood Section, the section will promote early childhood literacy with books in Diné Bizaad and the English language too. Partnering with the Office of the First Lady and Second Lady, First Things First Navajo Region, and NN Project I-LAUNCH have proven critical, as the Navajo Nation Library is taking steps to understand the needs and wants of young parents as well as their needto promote literacies for their children ages 0-5 years old.

 We have opened the library space to host families who want to read to their children. We have instructed our library staff to encourage parents to read to their children while they wait inthe library or bringing their children to the library.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- The pandemic prevents more face-to-face interactions through programming, services, and event planning. Also, with the Library housing various NN Department of Diné Education programs, we are limited in how many patrons we can host. Although, we have an average of 343 visitors per month
- There has been a delay in setting up the NN Library website through the NN DIT, we are debating about setting up our own domain and seek out a third party web hosting company that we can count on. Having control of our own web presence will show that the NNL is up-to-date, adapting for the future, drive traffic to our site by climbing the search engine result pages, and promote our domain heavily.
- The Navajo Nation Library is fortunate that we are having incoming funds through the State of NM Library, State of AZ Library, and the Navajo Nation Council, we are able toupgrade our Cataloging and Discovery systems, invest into digital resources, but what we face is going through the purchasing, bidding, and 164 proces in order to have access to the funds and use it all towards upgrading, investing, and overhauling in technology, networking, collection management, collection acquisition, collateral, graphic and web design.
- In the next quarter, we hope to schedule a head of time with the Office of President and Vice President, Office of the First Lady and Second Lady, and the Office of Miss NavajoNation, and promote the events, so that we can gauge and anticipate how many patrons and interested individuals will know about the Library.
- DPM is holding up the process and hope they make changes to add the 2 positions.
- Much of the changes we are wanting to implement is based on the funding we get from the State of NM Library. We have tied in the investment into the catalog, discovery system, and digital collections. The process of OMB, OOC, DOJ, and OPVP is a bit stifling as we hoped to have the funds available to use may take longer than expected as we would like to move forward and use the funding.
- Successfully having the Chapter Libraries be implemented and the chapter personnel to betrained to provide library service when chapter members visit and use the digital library.
- Background check that is holding up the process to hire someone at Torreon Library.
- Events especially during a time when we have to worry about the safety and well-being of ourstaff and people who may want to attend are all having the challenge of the pandemic. We will be in the second year of the COVID-

19 pandemic with new variants coming out every 4-6 months, we have to be ready and prepared. That singular challenge has limited our capacity in the library, cut down on our programming, and limited our services too. Although, the Navajo Nation Library much like our Diné – we will show resiliency by seeking other means to program, event plan, and provide services for the people.

- The Navajo Nation Library is reviewing the children's section of the main floor, we are looking to expand and divide the space. Our hope is that creating an early childhood section will provide welcoming space into the library floor. Far too long has the library been a place where some come and go, we want other parts of the library to be used and patrons to have a natural curiosity for exploring what's in the library either physically or digitally too.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY2021 Quarterly Budget Report

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Funds	AdvancED Navajo Nation	October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022	\$375,000.00	\$385,021.00	\$348,082.30	90%	4	0

#### Office of Dine Accountability and Compliance

Department Name: | AdvancEU Navajo Nation/ Department of Dine' Education

2021 Reauthorization of Schools: 5 schools are coming up for reauthorization and my office is continuing to work with these schools to ensure they are complying with federal and Navajo Nation laws and requirements.

Continue to implement the School Intervention policy at two schools (Leupp and SASI)

20 Schools will be coming up for reauthorization and my office (ODAC) will continue to assist these schools for their application submission on Monday, March 21, 2022 by 5pm. Thereafter, ODAC assist schools to ensure all contents of the school's application have the proper documents for compliance and for final submission for reauthorization in June, 2022.

ODAC as well as other DoDE Programs including the NNBOE was able to reauthorize 3 schools in which schools were able to submit their Corrective Action Plans to ensure they are addressing their findings within their audit as well as in other areas of school improvement

ODAC and DoDE temporary assumed three schools due to lost of quorum at each of theschools.

ODAC has implemented the School Intervention Plan with two schools (Leupp and SASI). This intervention will continue to be implemented throughout the next quarters.

The implementation of the School Intervention has been challenging due to not being able to meet with all community members regarding their concerns of their school.

As much as my office reminds schools, schools will still have issues in completing the business regulatory requirements and well as obtaining respective supporting chapter resolutions for reauthorization.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report

FIRST QUARTER FY2022

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
	OFC OF DINE ACCTOUNTABILITY &COMPLIANCE	10/1/21-9/30/22	\$ 544,162.00	\$ 544,162.00	\$ 505,205.14	92%	7	5

#### Johnson-O'Malley Program

Department Name: Otc of Dine' Accountability & Compliance

The Johnson O'Malley program will update and create the Mission and Vision statements with stakeholder input, develop standard operating processes to make the office more efficient. The Johnson O'Malley Program will complete the annual report, the student count and work with subcontractors to update funding.

The Johnson O'Malley Program is in the process of planning a staff retreat with selected topics relevant and stakeholders with a tentative outline. This would help staff provide trainings and technical assistance aligned with program goals.

- 1. JOM Program has received all the annual reports from the subcontractors.
- 2. JOM Program has received two additional applications to contract with the NNJOM and mayrecontract with Gallup McKinley County Schools.
- 3. JOM Program received additional grants which have been allocated toward training for the NNJOM Program and subcontractors.
- 4. JOM has developed plans for JOM Staff retreat to develop program mission, vision statements, program goals and SOPs to make the program more efficient and effective.
- 5. JOM Program has a permanent program manager after the passing of the former programmanager.

#### **B. CHALLENGES**

- 1. JOM continues to have delays with the 164 Process time with contracts.
- 2. JOM has been involved in the litigation regarding BIA and Gallup McKinley County Schools.
- 3. JOM staff have been trying to organize documents from previous program manager and staffmember

- 4. JOM continues to meet with BIA, OOC, OMB and President's Office regarding A18AV00337
- 5. JOM continues to provide technical assistance with subcontractors via zoom. At times, depending on connectivity, this can be challenging at times.

Office of the President and Vice President FY2021 Quarterly Budget Report									
Department Name: Date Submitted:	12/29/2021	ay Program							
Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies	
External-Federal	Johnson-O'Malley	1/1/2021-12/31/21	\$755,088.00	\$3,887,829.00	\$2,141,733.28	55%	07	0	
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#### Office of Dine Y.O.U.T.H

- 1. **CROWNPOINT ODY: VIRTUAL AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING**: Crownpoint Agency has been implementing Virtual Afterschool Programming by providing various activities such as; Arts & Crafts, Reading and DETS Curriculum.
- 2. **HUERFANO CENTER:** Virtual Online Afterschool programming was held through Zoom. Continued Programming, such as Dine Language & Culture, STEAM, General Recreation, Kid's healthy cooking class, Reading Time and Community Youth Educational Outreach.
- 3. Program Supervisor continues to be active in monthly virtual meetings for the Crownpoint Youth Complex. The construction is approximately seven (7)) months behind.
- 4. Program Supervisor and Recreation Specialist continues to be active in the Crisis Response Team and attending virtual meetings.
- 5. PS III continues to participate in monthly Program Supervisors Meetings for continuance updates on Agency Activities.
- 6. The Crownpoint Dine Youth Staff participated in the following Trainings ECHO training, The meaning of the Navajo Cradle Board, The infection prevention control training and Excel Training.

#### Chinle/Boys & Girls Club of Dine Youth

- 1. The ODY/BGCDY staff have been planning, designing and implementing activities throughout the holidays.
- 2. Toys for Tots, one big task for the program, overall. The delivery was late however the office prepared for the delivery and accomplished the distributing all within the three days, to the Tribally Schools, Navajo Head Starts Centers, and the School District within Chinle Agency.
- 3. Chinle ODY/BGCDY continues to work on price quotes, preparing purchase requisition to expend most of the K-Accounts since the closing of all accounts are scheduled December 2021.
- 4. ODY/BGCDY resubmitted ARPA funds Budget after our office was informed to decrease by 20%. We are highly expecting the ARPA funding to be award to expand the Boys & Girls Club space.

#### Shiprock

Our youth engaged in Restoring Creating Family wellness with the new Miss Navajo. Our topic was on Mental Wellness and our presenter was Anthony Begay, Family Therapist with Navajo Family and Children Treatment Center. Our youth created drawings of what mental wellness means to them and how well they take care of their mental wellness. Things that they do to ensure that they are healthy mentally. Our presenters also went Facebook live to capture others in the media spectrum so that it is communicated across the nation.

- 1. Outreach services with schools within the Northern Chapters in conducting virtual presentation on the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. Creating changes in their lifestyle to exercise more and eating healthy to maintain their weight or doing their best to live healthy. Staff encourage to start small and gradually increase where they are comfortable to continue and apply to their lives
- 2. Our increase in youth membership enrollment for Afterschool programming is looking positive as we provide snack and care items for our youth and families on a bi-weekly basis so that they can participate on our virtual afterschool program through zoom. Parents are appreciating all the efforts that Shiprock Office of Dine' Youth is providing in the realms of youth services.
- 3. Our virtual 5k Zombie Run has been completed which was supposed to be an in-person event but due to uncertain circumstances it changed to a virtual run. Participants registered and completed their run which they submitted a record of their time. Each participant received a tshirt.
- 4. Shiprock Office of Dine' Youth will be hiring three (3) youth for winter break who will be working on separating toys for all schools, breaking down boxes, and getting books ready to be picked up by schools come January 2022. We have about 68 schools that we will be completing to receive the toys for their students. Each child will receive 2 toys each along with a gift in kind and books to read.

#### **Tuba City**

- 1. December 14-22, 2021: Toys for Tots delivery to commence with Navajo Nation Tribally controlled schools set as priority, then to state and private schools for Western Agency Schools, TCODY will attempt to deliver as many toys as time permits.
- 2. Programming outreach virtual activities are in a series of events with schools in Western Agency, with activities and programming that are not duplicated. The agency provided sessions with, with ODY programming, prevention, culture, recreation, education and knowledge, and citizenship, to promote the core principles of the Department of Diné Education. The following schools involved Kayenta Middle School, Tuba City High School, Kaibeto Boarding School, Oljato Headstart, Tonalea Day School, and the following chapters Lechee, Tuba City. Each session advocates on the importance of Navajo History, Language and Culture. Each lesson has brought traditional insight into our participant's education.
- 3. Currently with enrolled for the After School programming in progress virtually, due to the Greyhills Academy High School being closed due to lack of proper ventilation, at present with the LeChee Chapter, on establishing an After School location, MOU/MOA proposal with the Navajo

Nation DOJ, will require revisions and need to be submitted following the corrections imposed by DOJ.

4. Girls Scouts: has been assigned to Elsie Begay, Rec. Coord, and currently in recruitment progress

#### **CHALLENGES**

#### Chinle/Boys & Girls Club

- 1. The participation of youth for virtual programming is very challenging. Students are not logging on due to home connection for internet services.
- 2. Concerns from the parents and community, the increase of COVID-19 (Delta and Omicron). The club is closed for programming because of the one-to-one services are not taken place.
- 3. The feedback not being provided for some of the K-Accounts for Boys & Girls Club has been put on hold from OOC

As the Navajo Nation continues to be impacted by COVID19 and now the Delta Variant, more provisions and restriction has been enacted in Public Health Emergency Orders and Executive Orders once again. This does impact youth services, which allows us to provide limited and virtual youth services. Despite this obstacle, our office and staff continue to provide youth services to youth within our Fort Defiance agency.

Office of Diné Youth's Re-entry Plan- Youth Services (for youth programs) is still pending review and approval with Navajo Nation Department of Dine Education. Therefore, "In Person" youth programming within facilities is pending at this time. When will receive update on the status of this plan?

Need to obtain up-to-date desktop computers for staff, to utilize at office, in addition, to purchase other technologies. ODY is providing "Virtual Youth Services", so we need to stay up to par with technologies to provide services through Zoom and Etc. Looking at upgrading technology with Fiscal 2022 allocations.

#### Shiprock

- 1. Challenges in this area is that vendors responses are not returned quickly to ensure that our documentation for the 164 processes is completed in a timely manner to be processed and delivered to our administration office.
- 2. Processing procurement documents has been challenging along with activity packets due to making sure that hard copies are mailed or delivered to ODY administration. Shiprock ODY are required for approval processes.
- 3. FMIS challenges is having the time to complete the training modules while tending to daily programmatic and administrative duties.
- 4. Because of limited person to person contact Office of Environmental health has been lacking in issuing the certificate in a timely manner. We must wait for their approval processes and reply from their representative to comply with these processes.
- 5. Shiprock ODY is lacking their land designation, Currently, Shiprock ODY is working with Shiprock Chapter to complete this project therefore LURA becomes available for our program. Most offices within Navajo Nation are not allowing personnel inside the offices, this creates barriers not completing the tasks to accomplish of obtaining documents.

#### **Tuba City**

- The MOU/MOA with Department of Justice and LeChee Chapter agreement to provide After School Programming requires an revisions and recommended by Department of Justice.
- 2. Beginning January 2022 Greyhills Academy High School will not renew the rental agreement to provide after school program. Currently, Tuba City – ODY was instructed to remove all equipment.
- 3. The lack of facility to conduct programming for Tuba City Youth is in dire need. Currently, Tuba City ODY is collaborating with Tuba City planning of action to establish a future site for a facility. At this time, negotiation has stalled Tuba City Chapter, due to the grazing committee not supporting the land withdrawal.
- 4. Staffing is a major concern not enough staff support; the qualification of vacancies position does not meet the qualification for the positions.
- 5. Due to not short staff, the current staffs are assigned extra duties to meet the demands for services within Tuba City Office of Dine Youth.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY'2022 1st Quarterly Report

Department Name: Office of Dine YOUTH
Date Prepared: 12/22/21

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name:	Fund Period: -m?1721 to	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General	ODY Administration	9/30/22	\$ 369,620.00		\$ 333,394.68	90%	4	1
General	ODY Chinle	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	\$ 700,225.00		\$ 614,167.64	88%	10	3
General	ODY Crownpoint	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	\$ 667,267.00		\$ 563,327.28	84%	9	0
General	ODY Fort Defiance	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	\$ 700,225.00		\$ 580,032.49	83%	11	1
General	ODY Shiprock	107I)21 to 9/30/22	\$ 738,832.31		\$ 691,195.52	94%	12	8
General	ODY Tuba City	10/1/21 to 9/30/22 Extend	\$ 579,174.00		\$ 506,183.09	87%	9	3
External B G C o A	Pacific Western Techologies	12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 1,170.07	12%	0	0
External B G C o A	Spirit of Sovereignty #1	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 0.72	0%	0	0
External BGCoA	Spirit of Sovereignty #2	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21 Extend	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 0.86	0%	0	0
External Private Donation	Spirit of Sovereignty #3	12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ S,000.00		\$ 247.76	5%	0	0
External B G C o A	Spirit of Sovereignty #4	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 2,829.46	57%	0	0
External BGCoA	B&G Club - ILTF	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21 Extend	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 815.74	8%	0	0
External BGCoA	B&G Club - Oil & Gas Co.	12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 679.18	27%	0	0
External BGCoA	2016 Native American Endowment Grant	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 25,000.00		\$ 719.91	3%	0	0
External B G C o A	2016 Red Nose Grant	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 1,360.47	14%	0	0
External B G C o A	Endowment Grant	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 424.95	4%	0	0
External B G C o A	FY'19 Red Nose Grant 2020 NAEG-Virtual	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 7,979.89	80%	0	0
External BGCoA	Teen Summit	9/15/20 - 9/15/21 Extend	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	1.00%	0	0
External BGCoA	Native Endowment Fund-DWP	12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 2,834.00	57%	0	0
External B G C o A	Native Endowment Fund-NFL Foundation	Extend 12/31/20 to 12/31/21	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00	1.00%	0	0
External Donation	Trigger Global Inc.	4/19/21- 12/31/21	\$ 30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	1.00%	0	0
External BGCoA Donation	BGC Covid-19 Relief Efforts	5/26/21- 5/25/23	\$ 150,000.00		\$ 150,000.00	1.00%	0	0
External	Red Nose Day COVID- 19 Relief Efforts	10/26/20 - 12/31/21	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 4,748.00	47%	0	0
External	Rea Nose Day -Native	11/19/20- 12/31/21	\$ 1,666.00		\$ 444.64	27%	0	0
External Donation	BGCA Integrated Direct Marketing	2/1/21- 12/31/21	\$ 824.73		\$ 824.73	1.00%	0	0

#### Office of Dine School Improvement (ODSI)

- Had meetings with 9 different schools (Black Mesa CS, NaaTsis'Aan CS, Rock Point CS, Greyhills Academy High School, Hunters Point Boarding School, Wide Ruins CS, Atsá Biyáázh CS, Northwest High School, Greasewood Springs CS and Shonto Preparatory School) to discuss current PD/PLCs feedback for the Academic SY of 2021/2022. Discussed the summative and informative assessments administration and data analysis.
- 2. Working with teachers pertaining to Coaching, Examining Student Work, classroom observation, and aid in setting up professional development. The following schools are the schools that I provide technical assistance to, which relates to Using Data Process and PDs/PLCs.
- 3. We are working on Phase 2 and 3 of DSAP implementing Dine' Language and Culture standards. Office of Dine' Standards, Curriculum and Assessments have been meeting with ODSI discussing DSAP Phase 2. We started to plan on how we will revisit Dine' standards and build on that.
- 4. Continue with School Improvement planning and setting new goals, strategies, and plans with teachers and principals.
- 5. Educating teachers about Using Data Process.
- 6. Assisting schools with Reauthorization.
- 7. Working on DSAP Parent Handbook. DODE Board approved the handbook.
- 8. Developed new School Improvement and Professional Development Plans.
- 9. Provided input for School reopening Covid-19 Plans.
- 10. Working and planning with NAU to build a STEM curriculum and program for our Dine' students.
- 11. Working and planning with Penn State University to build a character development curriculum for our Dine' students.
- 12. Meeting with ASU to continue working on our STEAM Engineering curriculum for our Dine' schools. Planning on doing another Engineering curriculum professional development.
- 13. Participating with School Leadership Meeting every Tuesday getting covid updates and also relaying educational messages.

14. Attending DODE Program Manager's Meeting every week planning for our students and our people, in general. Getting covid updates and the latest in Education.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- 1) Schools: Black Mesa Community School, Greyhills Academy High School, NaaTsis'Aan Community School, Rock Point Community School, Shonto Preparatory School, Hunters Point Boarding School, Wide Ruins Community School, Greasewood Springs Community School, Atsá Biyáázh Community School, and Northwest High School currently do not have any major challenges. Most of the schools have employed Hybrid Learning, while other are utilizing Distance Learning (Virtual Classroom) due to COVID-19 pandemic. All schools have varying technical difficulties from hardware to software and internet to WiFi coverage.
- 2) UDP: NaaTsis'Aan Community School, Greyhills Academy High School, Rock Point Community School, Black Mesa, Greasewood Springs, and Shonto Preparatory School all have a stable team, who all trained in UDP concepts and protocols. Hunters Point, Wide Ruins, and Atsá Biyáázh do have a new UDP Data Team and do have a data/curriculum/professional development specialist to help with analyze data. Overall, most of the Data Teams have members that have UDP experience for at least 3+ years.
- 3) Staff: The challenges with school staff is offering Professional Developments via ZOOM or other video conferencing, because "hands-on" learning is quite effective to comprehend for teachers. All staff for all schools have a major challenge, which is developing virtual learning curriculums and lesson plans to meet the varying students' academic need. The most important challenges for all teachers for all schools are the student's attendance and homework completion and submission.
- 4) **UDP/Other:** Our schools developed new School Improvement Plans for SY 2021-22 with new goals and strategies using recent school data.
- 5) We are finishing up with DSAP Phase 1 and 2. The final rewrite of DSAP Phase I is currently going under review with the Interior and Department of Education. A DSAP technical guide isbeing developed and a Parent Handbook was approved DODE Board of Education.
- 6) The annual Navajo Nation Science Fair is canceled for 2022. Pandemic still around.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report

FIRST QUARTER

Department Name: Otc of Unite' School Improvement
Date Submitted: 27-Dec-21

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
GENERAL	DINE SCH IMPROV	10/1/21-9/30/22	\$ 944,585.00	\$ 944,585.00	\$ 882,737.09	93%	7	3
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#### Navajo Head Start

1. Navajo Head Start continues to work with Directors, Managers, Specialists, Center Staff (Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Bus Drivers) and District Support staff

- to train on NHS Reopening Plans and Safety procedures in the classroom.
- 2. NHS Facility Team continues to respond to work orders in a timely manner.
- 3. NHS Facility Team continues to respond to OEH findings from on site survey reports, and provide onsite classroom, kitchen, and playground assessments to ensure safety of children enrolled.
- 4. In Educational Services, Data models were established by the Student Data Specialist for tracking of real time attendance, learning model, and student participation.
- 5. NHS Assistant Superintendent continues to attend meetings with the governing body (NNBOE) and work alongside the Parent Policy Council in meeting objectives listed in the Performance Audit CAP, NHS Strategic Plans aligned with the annual Grant Application goals.
- 6. NHS Family EngagementTeamin collaborations with Navajo Division of Behavioral & Mental Health ServicesandDine Introspective provided four virtualtraining sessions for families of enrolled students that focused on Family Well Being and Positive Parent-Child Relationships.
- Families of enrolled children were surveyed to determine learning modelof preference. NHS honorsfamily choice and providesthree learningmodelsfor families to select from (remote, hybrid, and in-person) in the 2021-2022 School Year.
- 8. NHS collaborated with Office of Dine Youth to distribute "Grab-n-Go" educational bags to students enrollee in Crownpoint and Fort Defiance agencies.
- 9. NNOSERSandNavajo Head Start (NHS) now have a cooperative Agreement that was signedby bothprograms on July 28, 2021. This partnership will expand Mental Health (MH) services by intervention, coaching, and consultation for not only students but also NHS staff. Dr.Sara Clancey will be theMentalHealth consultantto assist NHS where needed.
- 10. Postedan RFP for Traditional Mental Health Consultant to supportfamilies who wish to take the traditional track to mentalwellness.
- 11. Gallup McKinley County Schools, Cedar UnifiedSchool District, Chinle UnifiedSchoolDistrict,
  - Cuba Independent SchoolDistrict, Flagstaff UnifiedSchool District, and Window Rock Unified School District all signeda memorandum of understanding(MOU)with NHSto provide services to children with special needs.
- 1. Identification of new business units for awarded supplemental grants.
- 2. Streamlining of services underthe newguidance of the Director of Financial Services.
- 3. Additional fundingstreams available for NHS through submission of

funding proposals byprogram.

- 4. NHS SchoolReadiness Team developed aScope andSequence forWinterthat lists learning themes,topics,concepts, objectives andaligned to the Head Start Outcomes Framework thatpromotes Navajo language andvocabulary skills.
- NHS purchased additional teaching aids (posters and vocabulary cards) to promote a Navajo culturally relevant learningenvironment for all 85 classrooms utilizing the Immersion Budget

#### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. Navajo Head Start continues to work with Directors, Managers, Specialists, CenterStaff (Teachers, Paraprofessionals, BusDrivers) and District Support staffto train on NHS Reopening Plans and Safety procedures in the classroom.
- 2. NHS Facility Team continues to respond to work orders in a timely manner.
- 3. NHS Facility Team continues to respond to OEH findings fromonsite survey reports, and provide onsite classroom, kitchen, and playground assessments to ensure safety of children enrolled.
- 4. In Educational Services, Data models were established by the Student Data Specilist for tracking of real time attendance, learning model, and student participation.
- 5. NHS Assistant Superintendentcontinues to attend meetings with the governing body(NNBOE) and work alongside the Parent Policy Council in meeting objectives listed in the Performance Audit CAP, NHS Strategic Plans aligned with the annual Grant Application goals.
- 6. Lack of internet, cell, and phone-landlineservices inseveral communities across the Navajo Nation prevent some families from participating in virtual events.
- 7. Staffingof centers, high turn overof staff due to retirement impacted severalcenter operations.
- 8. Office of Dine Youth program outreach varies by agency which preventsall agencies and families from participating in this effort.
- 9. The internal review process wastimely with DODE which led to delays in implementation.
- 10. Lack of responsesto RFP. This has been posted two times and there still have

- not been anyresponses.
- 11. Slow response from Local Education Agencies (LEAs) whichdelays the finalization of MOUs.
- 12. Slow response from NHA to families and shortage of housing availability in communities. The pandemic closing NHA offices to the public.
- 13. NHS lacks a partnership with Navajo Housing Authority to streamline the referral process for families of enrolled child needing assistance.
- **14.** Lack of fundingfor Chapters to renovate or purchase new buildings for educational use.
- 15. No in person recruitment drives and community events.
- 16. Not receiving referrals in a timely manner due to staffshortages

#### Cognia/ AdvancED Navajo Nation

Goals for this year with benchmarks
Provide technical assistance to schools for continuous improvementPrepare schools to
host their engagement review
Conduct training for lead evaluators and team members Provide training
for staff for their professional development Create accompanying
documents to support Navajo schools

Our program is on track for the year and has made traction on all benchmarks above. There was a challenge in meeting the goal for training of lead evaluators as the Cognia training protocol haschanged and therefore we are in the process of updating all materials. Further, there was a need to move two reviews to the spring and thus we didn't' have the people to train until the spring. Cognia staff has continued to seek out training for our own professional development, including becoming FMIS certified and ensuring that we are able to cross train each other in our roles. The next two quarters will be more intensive for training and technical assistance forschools who will host their review during the second semester.

#### **CHALLENGES**

2. The challenge of not being able to be in the building when we need to scan documents is an inconvenience. We are able to do all tasks remotely, but the temperature of the building was a challenge to be in person.

#### Office of Special Education & Rehabilitation Services

NNOSERS goals are to provide services to Navajo individuals, families and Children with a disability that reside on the Navajo Reservation. Program services include Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Independent Living, Early Intervention, and Home Visiting.

Each program within OSERS have been able to meet their goals during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are several accomplishments during this program period for the Navajo Nation Home Visiting Program and they are; A) Grants were renewed and awarded to continue to implementation of home visiting services. These grants include First Things First funds, Arizona Department of Health (Az State MIECHV) funds, and Tribal MIECHV (New Mexico). These continued funds from these grants will continue implementation of Home Visiting Services for families on the Navajo Nation. B) The Navajo Nation Home Visiting program has continued to retain 90% of family's enrollment by incorporating flexibility to families through virtual and/or by telephone visits and offers 1:1 meet, greet, & updates during brief curbside visit/deliveries (with C19 safety precaution). This allows families to remain connected with their provider once a month. C) During this reporting period home visiting provided home visiting services to 212 enrolled Navajo families. These services include providing support, resources, and guidance to best parenting practices. D) The home visiting provided age appropriate activities & enrichment lessons for child development skills & school readiness to 245 Navajo children. Lastly, there were 460 family virtual home visits conducted during this reporting period, 78 developmental screenings administered to Navajo Children to monitor child development, and 245 early childhood books provided to children to increase Early Language Literacy. The program also hosted monthly family group connection with families during the holidays. Family group connection include skill building for parents, parent child interactions, and family well beigin. This period was successful in terms of implementations.

The Early Intervention program of Arizona 'Growing in Beauty' corrected FFY 2019 monitoring findings in a timely manner that resulted in remaining in compliance for PEA (Public Education Agency) notification.

New Mexico "Growing in Beauty" (NM GIB) Early Intervention program recently received 100% Annual Performance Rating on Federal Part C performance indicators 1. Timely delivery of services within 30 days, 3. Early childhood outcomes, 7. Developing initial Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) within 45 days, 8A. Timely development and documentation of transition plans, 8B. Timely transition notification to Local Education Agencies (LEA), 8C. Timely transition conferences from Part C early intervention to Part BLEA special education. NM GIB had a 90% return rate of annual parent surveys. This quarter NM GIB received 54 referrals, completed 17 initial intakes, 19 comprehensive developmental assessments, and determined eligibility for 7 children. A total of 36 initial, 6 mos. and annual IFSPs were developed and/or updated. In the transition process from Part C to Part B, 12 children completed transition conferences, staff participated/attended 12 Part B (LEA) Individual Education Plans for children, and completed 12 notifications/referrals to LEA. There were 123 docmented Child Find Activities for Part Band Part C, 18 parent trainings and 17 public awareness opportunities. NM GIB has been receiving reflective supervision from a certified individual which has provided staff with opportunity to express concerns which may be personal or job related and develop an enhanced awareness to problem solve in a group or personal setting and is a wonderful asset to the program and a requirement for NM El programs.

Navajo Project I-LAUNCH: Navajo Project I-LAUNCH started its 4th year of the grant October 1, 2021. The grant has 8 overarching goals that meet the grant's 5 core strategies: L Scr:eening and Assessment 2. Enhanced Home Visiting 3. Mental Health Consultation 4. Family Strengthening and Parenting Training 5. Integration of Behavioral Health into Primary Care Settings. The goals outlined this quarter were to continue to provide and evaluate direct services which included parenting classes, developmental screenings for children, adult screenings, infant & early childhood mental health consultation, reflective supervision, and outreach events to the public. In addition to goals for the quarter, I-LAUNCH continues to make strides in system change in the early childhood system by providing professional development for the early childhood field, facilitating the Young Child Wellness Advisory Group also known as Navajo Nation Early Childhood Collaborative, and creating and maintaining partnerships with Navajo Nation and stateearly childhood programs Navajo Project I-LAUNCH: I-LAUNCH is on track to meet direct services goals which include providing parenting classes, child & adult screenings, community outreach events, and infant & early childhood mental health consultation. The goals I-LAUNCH would like to strive to meet within in this fiscal year is to further the early childhood resource map that provides a visual mapping of early childhood programs on the Navajo Nation and surrounding areas to the public and early childhood stakeholders. The resource map is the foundation to create a resource and referral system to streamline early childhood services. I-LAUNCH would like to involve Navajo Nation Behavioral & Mental Health Service and Department of Health in the development and maintenance of the referral and resource system

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Independent Living (IL) Programs: A total of 228~VR consumers and 88~IL consumers were served during the  $1^{\text{st}}$  quarter. On September 24, 2021, OSERS received Grant Award Notification from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS), that our five-year, American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation (AIVRS) grant application was approved for the period beginning October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026. In addition, a one year No Cost Extension grant application was also approved allowing NNOSERS to fully expend prior allocated grant funds to complete project objectives impacted by the pandemic. The No Cost Extension grant is for the-- period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Another accomplishment was the completion of an outside External Review of VR program case files conducted by Quality Connections as stipulated in the Implementation and Evaluation section of the NNOSERS Management Plan for continuous quality improvement. Results and recommendations of External Review were reviewed with VR staff on December  $14,\,2021$ . Overall, the results were favorable and staff were commended for helping VR consumers achieve successful employment outcomes.

#### **CHALLENGES**

The challenges that the Home Visiting program have encounter these past months for this reporting period have been that families have a difficulty with connectivity with their internet. Some families also have struggles with limited phone coverage, since there are no face to facevisits our staff have been able to offer curbside visits.

The Growing in Beauty Early Intervention program for Arizona has encountered challenges with moving out office due to health environment concerns since September 2021. Staff are working remotely from their home and in hopes that a new office will be available soon.

New Mexico "Growing in Beauty" Early Intervention Program relies on initiating and maintaining contracts with speech and language therapists, physical therapists, and occupational therapists to complete a team based approach to determine program eligibility and deliver professional discipline specific ongoing services to families and children. A major challenge is ensuring therapists receive payment for services in a timely manner. A therapist recently decided to not renew a contract am:1-expressed frustration after years of receiving late payment following invoice submissions. To continue providing quality services to families and children, consideration and care to timely compensation is an area of improvement that would alleviate stress and frustration contractors experience in their professional relationship with NNOSERS NM El program.

The major challenges this past quarter included payment processing, infrastructure issues, and maintaining partnerships with other Navajo Nation program/divisions. I-LAUNCH had difficulties processing payments in a timely manner to pay for services and equipment needed to fulfill grant requirements. The payment process often takes several weeks to months to complete which discourages vendors from doing business with our program in the future. The payment process is also extensive and restrictive to where our program cannot purchase needed equipment in a timely manner or is kicked back due to needing further justification. In addition, our staff worked in an uncomfortable environment due to lack of heat in the building during cold weather. Staff were needing to find additional means of heating such as personal electric blankets and portable heaters that often tripped the circuit. Staff were offered the option to telecommute until the issue has been resolved. The building's heating system needs to be repaired and updated to provide a suitable working environment. Lastly, I-LAUNCH has been attempting to meet with other Navajo Nation program and divisions to collaborate, but their program and divisions continues to face staff turnover, narrowed focus on COVID-19 efforts, and staff shortage. These also have prevented partnerships with current programs and divisions fromprogressing forward.

VR/IL Programs: Unfortunately, services for both programs are still impacted by the pandemicand COVID 19 restrictions. Staff are doing their best to recruit and increase VR referrals including keeping in contact with consumers who are enrolled in school/training, self-employed, job searching, job development and continue to be employed. Another tremendous challenge is that of staff recruitment. At the end of the 2021 fiscal year, three VR Counselors from the Chinle, Shiprock and Utah offices retired. As a result, consumer cases were assigned to the Crownpoint, Ganado and Kayenta offices for the VR Counselor to oversee\_until vacant positions\_are filled. Although this increased caseload responsibilities, the biggest challenge lies in trying to cover an even larger geographic land base. Other vacancies include four (4) Rehabilitation Service Technician positions at the Gallup, Chinle, Kayenta and Window Rock offices. These positions have been vacant for an extended period of time. The Department of PersonnelManagement (DPM) needs to stay abreast of ensuring job openings and closing dates are kept posted till positions are filled and not on an intermittent basis. The other challenge is the DODE heating system which has not been repaired going on several weeks now. Staff have had to resort to portable space heaters and can only keep it at a low temperature to prevent circuit outages. Staff are having to resort to teleworking from home and/or programs relocating to vacant offices if space is available. Working conditions are not conducive or safe for DODE employees with the onset of cold weather.

#### Office of Educational Research and Statistics

Research and collect Grant School Academic Performance, monitor academic growth and proficiency standards of PARCC for all 23 Tribally Controlled Schools. Monitoring State Academic Proficiency Scroes in 3 state public school system, provide technical assistant and training to schools on academic assessment and monitoring best practices. Provide qualitative research on influences of academic performance for Navajo students.

The goals are a systemic analysis and follow a statistical trend analysis for a 5 year period. Goalsremain the same year to year, therefore, each each year adds to the 5 year trend analysis and gives an overall picture of student academic performance by growth and proficiency status. Program Budget Form 2 provides a detail structure of the 5 goals and how they are used toprovide a bigger picture anlaysis of the student growth and proficiency performance

The Office of Educational Research assisted in 26 tribally controlled schools (Grant Schools) academic reauthorization for FY21. This important as per Navajo Nation Legislation ECA-064-88 which gives experss authority to HEHSC hereby delegates to the Navajo Nation Board of Education (NNBOE) the authority to approve P.L. 93-638 and P.L. 100-297 Contract Reauthorization Applications for a one, two or four year terms for the operation of education and education related programs and/or residential programs, and in accord with grant applications and BIE funded education and education related programs. HEHSC, "delegated" their "Tribal Governing Body" reauthorization authority 2 N.N.C. § 400(B)(4), through 2 N.N.C. § 400(B)(5) with the enactment of HEHSCMY-012-12 on May 16, 2012. Furthermore, HEHSCMY-012-12 give the Navajo Nation Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools to "reauthorize schools".

Elevan qualitative surveys were completed across the year, during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic response in education, to asess, garner and document school adminsitration and parent input on school reopening procedures per Navajo Nation Public Health Executive Orders. These qualitative surveys assisted the Superintendent of Schools and the School Reopening Team to mitigate the safe reopening of public, grant, BIE and charter schools across the Navajo Nation. This was important to reduce the effects of leanning lost and the lost social and emotional performance of Navajo students.

Succesfuly completed the Navajo Education Summary report for the Office of the President and Vice President of the Navajo Nation. This report looked at the academic performance of all school operating on the Navajo Nation; this is comprised of 129 K-12 schools, comprised of public, charter, bureau operated (BIE), and tribally controlled (grant). There are 11 public schooldistricts with 40 schools and two separate charter schools in the Arizona portion of the Navajo Nation. According to the 2020- 2021 school year, the total enrollment for the Arizona public school is 12,022 and 82 for Arizona charter schools. In the New Mexico portion of the Navajo Nation, there are two public school districts with 24 schools and two separate charter schools. The enrollment for New Mexico public schools is 5,904 and 74 for charter schools. In the state of Utah, there is only one public school district on the Navajo Nation with 5 schools and an enrollment of 1,043. There are no charter schools in the Utah portion of the Navajo Nation. For Navajo Nation BIE schools, there are 32 schools with a total enrollment of 6,148. Lastly, there are 28 grant schools with an enrollment of 5,954. The total enrollment for all Navajo Nation schools is 31,227 for school year 2020-2021

The Office of Educational Research and Statistic updated a GIS mapping of all schools acrossthe Navajo Nation. In conjunction with Navajo Land Administration and Office of Education Research and Statistics, a detail listing of all public, grant, BIE and charters schools (including private) will be digitized and additional library/key fields will include infrastructure data (roads, community data, utilities and services) classification.

OERS staff updated the Navajo Nation School listing, working closely with Navajo Nation Land Administration (GIS) to plot all 260+ schools (public, character, BIE, tribally controlled, residential and private/mission).

OERS staff assisted 3 outside agencies (First Things First, Social Services and Health Command and Operations Center) to produce national data reports regarding student proficiency, schools counts for covid tracking and grant development data.

Completed 3 qualitative reports: Navajo Nation School Reopening Questionnaire Information helped the school reopening team mitigate the delta variant covid surge to help keep schools safely opened and operational, avoid school closures.

#### Navajo Traditional Apprenticeship Program

- 1. Coordinate Public Hearings to bring awareness to the public regarding the status of traditional ceremonies.
- 2. Coordinate with traditional Practitioners & Apprentices the number of ceremonies they conduct per quarter.
- 3. Traditional Practitioners & Apprentices will review & revise the NTAP manual for procedures & logistics of the project.
- 4. Coordinate with traditional Practitioners & Apprentices to participate with language & culture projects for the Navajo language & culture teachers.
- 5. Schedule meetings or monitor Apprentices in training by meeting with Practitioners.
- 6. Recruitment for traditional Practitioners & Apprentices is on-going and for the quarter two Practitioners and three Apprentices were required increasing the number of Practitioners from 17 to 19 & Apprentices from 15 tp 18.
- 7. NTAP manual currently being updated and revised.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. The major challenges for OSCAD is the shortstaffing.
- 2. Paperworks with NNDPM are not moving as quickly.
- 3. Traditional Practitioners & Apprentices are not will to assist OSCAD with Professional Development as stated in the NTAP contracts.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report

Department Name:	DODE/OSCAD/NTAP
Date Submitted:	30-Dec-21

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
Contract	NTAP	10/01/21-9/30/22	\$126,863.00	\$126,863.00	\$123,200.00	99.00%	36	0
					0.112.11/2.22.2			
		*						
		1	8					

#### **Navajo Education Information System**

- 1. Work continues to progress in developing the infrastructure of the NEIS accountability system. Continued development of network infrastructure, network security, and technical policies to govern accountability system. NEIS envisions the following steps involved in the implementation process.
- 2. Budget allocation request of technology implementation. ARP, TED, NM GEER and ESSER SEA Reserve Funding, and DSAP funding proposals submitted.
- 3. Technology Plan Formulation of committee members, stake holders. Quarterly meetings needs to be developed for stakeholders.
- 4. Continued working relationships with Navajo Nation Cyber Team, to address telecommunications/broad band initiatives for Education along with NM Homework Gapteam in support of e-learners.
- 5. Continued collaborations with State Department of Educations in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and BIE. Collaboration meetings consist of NEIS data warehouse initiatives, data use agreements, policy developments, e-rate initiatives and continued

telecommunications and broadband initiatives for education entities.

Step 1: Core and Communications Infrastructure Design. Step 2: Implementation of the datacenter, initial communications network, and provision of basic data center functions.

- 1. 2 additional NEIS technology staff will allow more attention to implementing and supporting the NEIS accountability system. PCQ's need to be updated and approved by NNDPM. Qualifications would consist of database development, network support and desktop/applications support for NEIS. 2 additional E-Rate technology staff would be beneficial in supporting day to day technology supportrequest and training for the 88 NN Chapter Libraries.
- 2. FY 22 Budget allocation for technology implementation. RFP created for Information Technology Infrastructure Improvements. Addressing DisasterRecover for current technology environment. Need to submit Supplementalfunding request and other identify other funding sources.
- 3. Draft Technology Plan Formulation of committee members, stake holders. Quarterly meetings needed to be developed for stakeholders.
- 4. Scheduling of site visits to conduct assessment of technology environment at the school site and identifying key staff at school fordata exchanges and support e-learning.
- 5. Technical Assistance required for E-Rate implementation and grant oversight. Consortium with Chapters with supporting MOA's needed.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. **Staffing.** Currently, we have only 1 technology staff developing Navajo Education Information System (NEIS) Accountability System and day to day technical needs. 1 staff handling all technological needs for DODE Administration and DODE Programs locally and remotely. All services provided are basic desktop support to network infrastructure support including administrative day to day operations of project planning for NEIS network infrastructure development and supporting NEIS accountability system. This creates a large gapof staff based on the work that needs to be accomplished. There is also technical support that isurgently needed to support Navajo Nation Chapter Libraries via E-Rate.
- 2. **Funding.** A sustainability plan needs to be developed. Ongoing funding request throughAmerican Recovery Plan, TED Grant and other resources.

- 3. **Technology Plan.** A Technology Plan needs to be developed for NEIS Accountability Systemand NEIS Technical Operations. Identifying stake holders to formulate technology committee.
- 4. **Technology Assessment.** Assessment of all education school entities and DODE Programs inremote locations for broadband gaps/clusters and data sharing initiatives.
- 5. **Broadband.** E-Rate applications for Head Start and Chapter libraries FY-22. Training, MOU/MOA's with Chapters, DCD, NHS

### **Division of Human Resources**

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1. The Division of Human Resources Administration and Navajo Office of Vital Records & ID (NOVRI) had Legislation No. 0179-21 passed by the Budget and Finance Committee that relates to approving and authorizing a contract between the Navajo Nation and the United States Department of Interior under 25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq. (P.L. 638, as Amended), for a three-year term for the NOVRI; approving the Fiscal Year Annual Funding Agreement and Scope of Work for the Period of the Contract Term.
- 2. In collaboration with Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NOSHA) and Facilities Maintenance Department, the DHR Administration office designated two handicap parking spaces which involved the installation of parking signs and painted pavement locations.
- 3. The Division of Human Resources Administration and the Department of Personnel Management assisted in the implementation of Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CAU-48-21, Mandating COVID-19 Vaccination for Navajo Nation Employees. As a result, the Navajo Nation has an overall vaccination rate of 98% for both the Executive and Legislative Branch.
- 4. The Division of Human Resources Administration hired a full time Human Resources Director for Department of Personnel Management. In addition, Department of Personnel Management completed and presented the amended policies to the oversight committee of Health, Education and Human Services Committee.
- 5. In support and recognition of division personnel, the Division of Human Resource Administration distributed promotional items to all personnel in appreciation of their dedication and hard work to their program and the Navajo Nation.

The Division of Human Resources Administration and the Department of Personnel Management assisted in the implementation of Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CAU-48-21, Mandating COVID-19 Vaccination for Navajo Nation Employees. As a result, the Navajo Nation has an overall vaccination rate of 98% for both the Executive and Legislative Branch.

In collaboration with the Office of the Controller, the Navajo Office of Vital Records & ID continues to assist with the CARES Act Hardship by issuing valid CIB's.

In collaboration with Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NOSHA) and Facilities Maintenance Department, the DHR Administration office designated two handicap parking spaces which involved the installation of parking signs and painted pavement locations.

In collaboration with the Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Personnel Management, DHR Administration completed and submitted the draft Employee Wellness Policy to DOH for final approval.

#### **CHALLENGES**

The current situation of COVID-19 on the Navajo Nation has brought many challenges and our programs are providing limited services to our communities and customers. We use this challenge to improve and make great changes in our Division and programs for our Navajo Nation.

#### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
10/02/21	Virtual	Fort Defiance Agency Council Meeting	75	Provided a brief report on the DHR Administration and DHR Programs.
10/09/21	Virtual	Chinle Agency Council Meeting	98	Provided a breif report on the DHR Administration and DHR Programs.
10/12/21	Virtual	HEHSC Work Session	30	Assisted with the presentation on the amended policies for the work session.

10/14-15/21	Twin Arrows, Flagstaff, AZ	Leadership meeting	52	Attended the leadership meeting and provided feedback on various topics discussed.
10/31/21	Lukachukai, AZ	Chapter Planning Meeting	6	Provided a brief update on what will be presented with CDCC.
11/4/21	Virtual	UNM Virtual Summit	58	Provided a presentation and served on the panel on Workforce
11/19/21	Virtual	Fielding Education Conference	89	Provided a presentation on Female Leadership.
11/24/21	Fire Rock Casino, Gallup, NM	Division Directors Meeting	35	Provided a brief update on DHR Administration and Programs.
12/1-2/21	Twin Arrows, Flagstaff, AZ	Division Directors Meeting	45	OPVP Leadership shared reports and provided feedback.
12/16/21	Window Rock, AZ	Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony	18	Served as the Mistress of Ceremony
12/18/21	Virtual	Northern Agency Council Meeting	90	Provided a brief report on DHR Programs.
12/18/21	Virtual	Western Agency Council meeting	109	Provided a brief report on DHR Programs.
12/20-23/21	Twin Arrows, Flagstaff, AZ	Leadership Meeting	48	Provided a report on DHR Administration and DHR Programs
10/3/21 to 12/30/21	Virtual	OPVP Town Halls	9,002 views on (You Tube)	Total of 10 OPVP Town Halls in the 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter and the overall total of town hall and radio town halls is 115, since the beginning of the pandemic on 03/16/2020.

#### Division of Human Resources FY2021 Budget Status Report

**Human Resources** 

DIVISION NAME

Thursday, December 30, 2021 Date Submitted: Fund Type: General, Original Amount Revised Amount Budget Balance External, Prior Year **Fund Name** 114001 DHR Adm 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$603.849.00 \$644,739.00 \$520,636,41 80.75% 4 0 General/IDC 114002 NN Band 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$65,632.00 \$145,082.00 \$65,630.22 45.25% 0 0 General 114003 NNTV and Film 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$469,787.00 \$469,787.00 \$375,762.43 79.99% 7 2 Proprietary \$446,728.00 \$446,728,00 \$335.883.93 114004 Office of Navajo Labor Relations 10/1/21-9/30/22 75.19% 0 General/IDC 6 114006 Staff Development and Training 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$371,465.00 \$371,465.00 \$291,507.07 78.47% 0 General/IDC 10/1/21-9/30/22 114007 Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Admir \$304,309.00 \$306,995.00 \$267,480.98 87.13% General/IDC 114009 Department of Personnel Management 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$1,743,757.00 \$1,743,757.00 \$1,510,330.80 25 General/IDC 86.61% 10/1/21-9/30/22 General 114010 Navajo Department of Workforce Develo \$114,300.00 \$114,300.00 \$93,296.81 81.62% 0 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$413,718.00 \$413,718.00 \$343,393.53 83.00% Proprietary 114018 Office of Background Investigations GENERAL FUNDS TOTALS: 58 \$4,533,545.00 \$4,656,571.00 \$3,803,922.18 81.69% 12 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$71,621,425.00 \$71,621,425.00 \$61,430,470.75 85.77% 0 Fiduciary 714001 Retirement Funds 10/1/21-9/30/22 Fiduciary 714002 Dept of Retirement Services \$1,541,900.00 \$1,672,076.60 \$1,431,797.67 85.63% 11 1 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$68,432.98 714003 RPAC \$70,000.00 \$70,000.00 97.76% Fiduciary 0 0 FIDUCIARY TOTALS: \$73,233,325.00 \$73,363,501.60 \$62,930,701.40 53.61% 11 10/1/21-9/30/22 118018 Dept of Retirement Services \$3,000,000.00 \$3,000,000.00 09 **FIXED COSTS TOTAL:** \$3,000,000.00 \$3,000,000.00 0% 86.69% 48 External Dept of Child Support Services 8 10/1/21-9/30/22 \$3,600,000.00 \$3,600,000.00 \$3,228,920.93 External Navajo Ofc of Vital Records & Identification 1/1/21-12/31/21 50.40% 24 \$982,315.00 \$982,315.00 \$495,106,46 xternal Navajo Department of Workforce Development 7/1/19-6/30/22 98.85% 82 18 \$32,400,876.00 \$36,037,685.00 \$35,624,475.77 **EXTERNAL TOTALS:** \$36,983,191.00 \$40,620,000.00 \$39,348,503.16 98.87% 154 27 CARES FUNDS - Navajo Office of Vital Records 1/1/21-12/31/21 \$4,000,000.00 \$5,885,668.00 \$363,139,55 6.00% 0 0 \$5,885,668.00 0 \$4,000,000.00 \$363,139.55 0 CARES FUNDS TOTAL: 6%% OVERALL DIVISION TOTALS: \$121,750,061.00 \$127,525,740.60 \$106,446,266.29 83.47% 223 40

# Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- IV. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
  - V. CHALLENGES
- VI. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1. In FY 2022, the Uranium Commission was successfully funded for operations from the General Fund.
- 2. The Uranium Commission successfully completed its first four-year term from its inaugural meeting.
- 3. Commission Meeting on September 9, 2021. Reports: A. Report on the Abandoned Mine Remedial Construction and Services Contracts (AMRCS) by Dennis C. Tremethick (M. Ed.), Contracting Officer, Level II and Acting Contracts Branch Team Lead, Contracts Branch, Mission Support Division, (Supporting SuperFund Tribal Land Cleanup Branch), United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9 (R9), 75 Hawthorne Street, MSD-3, San Francisco, CA 94105, and Simon Cardinale, Program Manager, Engineering/Remediation Resources Group, Inc., 4585 Pacheco Blvd. Ste 200 Martinez, CA, 94553. B. Report on the Thinking Zinc: A Clinical Trial by Chris Shuey, MPH, Coinvestigator, and others, Thinking Zinc Study, Community Engagement Core Lead, UNM METALS SRP, Southwest Research and Information Center, 105 Stanford SE, Albuquerque, NM, 87196. New Business: A. Approval of Resolution No. 009-21: FY 2022 Operating Budget for Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission B. Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement For Technical Studies Regarding Uranium Remediation.
- 4. Uranium Mine Waste Disposal Methods Regulations. The Commission staff continued with research on the disposal methods and development of draft disposal methods regulations. The work plan of the multi-agency work group is to complete the technical study and draft a policy (regulations) on mine waste disposal methods, which will be submitted to the Commission for presentation at public hearings for public comment. The draft legislation will then be submitted to the President and Navajo Nation Council for their review and consideration. The Technical Working Group members include officials from NavajoAML, USEPA, Uranium Commission, USBIA, Navajo Land Dept., Navajo DOJ, and Navajo EPA.
- 5. Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission reviewed the Request for Information Regarding Establishment of the Department of Energy Uranium Reserve Program, (50878 Federal Register / Vol. 86, No. 174 / Monday, September 13, 2021) prepared by the National Nuclear Security Administration of the US Department of Energy. They are making \$75,000,000 available to the Department for the Uranium Reserve Program. The Department is considering options to acquire natural uranium and convert this uranium into uranium hexafluoride that would be stored at commercial facilities in the United States. Although the RFP states this program does not intend such new production to initiate or expand mining on Tribal lands, they are seeking "meaningful engagement" with stakeholders including Tribal governments, and disadvantaged communities. The Department is published this RFI to gain a better understanding of Tribal and other disadvantaged communities and stakeholder views on topics related to the establishment

of a uranium reserve. The Navajo Nation has a moratorium on new uranium mining, processing and production. We provided our experience with uranium remediation in disadvantaged rural communities, impact to human health and environment, the environmental injustice, and difficulty with employment & training and procurement opportunities. The Uranium Reserve Program would introduce new uranium contamination hazards that disproportionally affect tribes and tribal lands if the US Government does not establish new comprehensive remediation regulations. Without new remediation and improved worker safety regulations any legacy of abandoned mines and mills will be ignored in the future, resulting in great harm to the workers and community members from exposure to uranium. The Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission does not endorse or support the proposed Uranium Reserve Program because it does not establish a need based on sustainable power generation and it does not promote new uranium mine remediation regulations; and, the Uranium Commission does not endorse the Uranium Reserve Program because of the sad legacy of failed remediation at 524 abandoned uranium mines on the Navajo Nation. The report by the Uranium Commission dated October 12, 2021, "Request for Information Regarding Establishment of the Department of Energy Uranium Reserve Program Comments about the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy" is on file at the **Uranium Commission Office.** 

6. Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission reviewed the "Action: Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment" for the 2021 Draft List of Critical Minerals, (62199 Federal Register / Vol. 86, No. 214 / Tuesday, November 9, 2021) solicited by the U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior. The Uranium Commission recognizes the element uranium has not been included in the 2021 Draft List of Critical Minerals, and the Uranium Commission agrees with this recommendation by USGS because uranium does not meet the conditions to be classified as a critical mineral under the Energy Act of 2020, Section 7002(c)(4)(A). The Uranium Commission believes it is widely known that the United States nuclear energy industry produces about 30% of the electrical energy used in the US, and this electrical energy produced is essential to the economic security of the United States. The Uranium Commission notes uranium functions as one resource on the list of available resources used in electrical energy production. However, this inclusion as an electrical energy resource does not dictate that uranium should be classified as a critical mineral. The Uranium Commission has reviewed the exclusion of uranium from the 2021 Draft List of Critical Minerals and fully supports the exclusion based on the "does not include" listing of uranium as one of the "fuel minerals". The Uranium Commission has reviewed the specific provisions of the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 [30 U.S.C. 21a] that include "uranium" in the mineral fuels definition. The Uranium Commission believes that almost all the uranium mining and mill processing that has caused great harm to the Diné and the environment, and that continues to cause great harm, was for uranium that functioned as "fuel minerals" and was used for uranium-

based electrical power generation. The report by the Uranium Commission describes Contamination of surface water and groundwate, A proliferation of 524 abandoned uranium mine sites throughout the Navajo Nation, The creation of uncontrolled outsideof-the-mill uranium processing sites, The destruction of sacred cultural artifacts from ancient times as harmful effects caused by mining and processing of the uranium "fuel minerals". Within the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970, 30 U.S.C. 21(a), is the policy about National mining and minerals policy; "minerals" defined; execution of policy under other authorized programs. This policy directs the Federal Government to foster and encourage private enterprise in "the study and development of methods for the disposal, control, and reclamation of mineral waste products, and the reclamation of mined land, so as to lessen any adverse impact of mineral extraction and processing upon the physical environment that may result from mining or mineral activities." Regrettably, the policy has resulted in minimal practical application or permanent remediation at the Navajo Nation even though 50 years has passed since the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 was adopted. The Uranium Commission is hopeful that new remediation policies and activities at abandoned uranium mines will occur in the future. The report by the Uranium Commission dated December 3, 2021 "Written Comments concerning the 2021 Draft List of Critical Minerals, published by the U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, [FR Doc. 2021-24488] Federal Register Vol 86, No 214, Nov. 9, 2021" is on file at the Uranium Commission Office.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- The Plan Of Operation Amendment for the Uranium Commission needs to be approved by the President and Council in order for the Uranium Commission to conduct business and meetings. The Plan Of Operation expired September 30, 2021 and legal advice is the Commission does not have authority to conduct business without an approved Plan Of Operation Amendment by the Council.
- 2. When the Plan of Operation Amendment is approved, all of the Commissioners will need be to appointed or reappointed.
- 3. The Uranium Commission office needs to be relocated in a more suitable and safe location.
- 4. Covid has hampered operations and in-person meetings of the Commission for the past two years. Virtual meetings will resume when the Plan of Operation Amendment has been approved and Commissioners appointed or reappointed.
- 5. Our expenditure level is lower than expected because the Commission is not operational. We need the Plan of Operation Amendment approved to do our work.

Department Name: Date Submitted: Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission (DURAC)

5-Jan-22

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External		Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Fund	DURAC	10/1/2021-9/30/2022	\$150,000	0	\$128,493	85.70%	1	0

### **Division of Community Development**

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (CPMD)

DCD-CPMD is securing about \$3 million from IHS ARPA funds for potable water. IHS and BIA are working on a work plan with DCD and Workforce Development for a water transportation and delivery program for households without piped water systems.

CPMD requested a time extension for the Heavy Equipment Sihasin projects, the deadline passed on December 30, 2021. Resolution NABIS-36-21 amends CJA-02-21 and NABIJN-14-21 to extend the deadline and time-frame for the expenditure or encumbrance of project funds to December 30, 2021. Eight (8) Heavy Equipment/Vehicles were delivered to seven (7) chapters. Heavy Equipment Training was provided to the Chapters at Nenahnezad Chapter on December 8, 2021. An additional extension has been requested for the remainder of equipment which has not been procured as of the December 30 deadline due to the COVID-19 pandemic emergencies that have impacted supply chain and lack of product.

The Navajo Nation awarded \$3 million of potable water from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). CPMD is assisting in the coordination with chapters and delivery logistics. The discussion to implement this project is on-going between the stakeholders.

Seven (7) Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Trainings were conducted.

- a. December 1st Baca/Gallup Regions AIF Orientation
- b. December 1st Shiprock Region AIF Orientation
- c. December 6th Ft. Defiance Region AIF Orientation
- d. December 7th Dilkon Region AIF Orientation
- e. December 7th Chinle Region AIF Orientation
- f. December 9th Kayenta Region AIF Orientation
- g. December 8th Tuba City Region AIF Orientation
- 5. Projects and Agreements
- a. Completed Projects and Equipment Purchases:
- i. Mariano Lake Truck Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- ii. White Cone Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- iii. Pinon Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- iv. Hardrock Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- v. Smith Lake Heavy Duty Truck, Trailer & Water Tank Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- vi. Mexican Springs Water Truck Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- vii. Tohatchi Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21

- viii. Chilchinbeto Year 1 & 2 @ \$2,233,800.51 Asaayi Phase II Powerline Ext. / Project Completed: December 23, 2021. Construction was completed by NTUA. 20 homes were served.
- ix. Mexican Water Three Phase Powerline Construction in December 2021. Sihasin year 2 -- \$1,634,047.00.
- b. (ICIP/ Bond Questionnaires/ IGA'S):
- i. Thirty (30) IGAs from NM HB 285 and seven (7) Reauthorization IGAs from HB 296 were submitted to NM IAD during the quarter and have been signed by NM IAD Secretary Truillo. The projects are waiting for BU# Transmittal Letters OCG.
- 1. F2419 Baahaali Chapter House Improvement
- 2. F2422 Chichiltah Chapter Fence Construct
- 3. F2426 Coyote Canyon Waterlines Extend
- 4. F2427 Crownpoint Chapter Cemetery Construct
- 5. F2428 Crownpoint Rodeo Grounds Improvement
- 6. F2436 Ojo Encino Heavy Equipment Purchase
- 7. F2437 Ojo Encino Chapter House Renovation
- 8. F2438 Pinedale Chapter Community Cemetery Construct
- 9. F2439 Pueblo Pintado Chapter Buzzard Canyon Powerline Construct
- 10. F2440 Red Rock Chapter Admin Parking Lot Construct
- 11. F2441 Red Rock Chapter House Construct
- 5. Projects and Agreements
- a. Completed Projects and Equipment Purchases:
- i. Mariano Lake Truck Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- ii. White Cone Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- iii. Pinon Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- iv. Hardrock Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- v. Smith Lake Heavy Duty Truck, Trailer & Water Tank Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-
- 01- 21
- vi. Mexican Springs Water Truck Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
- vii. Tohatchi Backhoe Purchased with Sihasin Funds CJA-01-21
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- 1. F2419 Baahaali Chapter House Improvement
- 2. F2422 Chichiltah Chapter Fence Construct
- 3. F2426 Coyote Canyon Waterlines Extend

- 4. F2427 Crownpoint Chapter Cemetery Construct
- 5. F2428 Crownpoint Rodeo Grounds Improvement
- 6. F2436 Ojo Encino Heavy Equipment Purchase
- 7. F2437 Ojo Encino Chapter House Renovation
- 8. F2438 Pinedale Chapter Community Cemetery Construct
- 9. F2439 Pueblo Pintado Chapter Buzzard Canyon Powerline Construct
- 10. F2440 Red Rock Chapter Admin Parking Lot Construct
- 11. F2441 Red Rock Chapter House Construct
- 12. F2442 Rock Springs Chapter Multipurpose Bldg Construct
- 13. F2444 Thoreau Chapter Veterans Service Center Construct
- 14. F2447 Tsayatoh Chapter Scattered Powerline Ext & Construct
- 15. F2450 Twin Lakes Chapter House Demolish
- 16. F2469 Gadii Ahi/Tokoi Administrative Complex Construct
- 17. F2470 Huerfano Chapter Adobe Powerline Construct
- 18. F2471 Huerfano Chapter Carson Waterlines/Bathrooms Construct
- 19. F2473 Red Valley Chapter Bathroom Addition Construct
- 20. F2475 Shiprock Industrial Park Street Lights Improvement
- 21. F2479 Tse Daa Kaan Chapter Farm Equip Purchase
- 22. F2480 Tse Daa Kaan Chapter Service Center Plan
- 23. F2482 Upper Fruitland Chapter Community Cemetery Construct
- 24. F2483 White Rock Chapter Multi-Purpose Bldg Construct
- 25. F2484 Counselor Chapter Cemetery Construct
- 26. F3172 Pueblo Pintado Chapter Sewer Lagoon Construct
- 27. F3178 Casamero Lake Chapter Bathroom Addition Expand
- 28. F3184 Tse Iiahi Chapter Powerlines Construct
- 29. F3188 Littlewater Chapter Regional Beacon Bisti Water System Construct
- 30. F3191 Huerfano Chapter Water System Improvement
- 31. F4037 Reauthorization Mexican Springs Chapter Regional San Juan
- 32. F4039 Reauthorization Tse Iiahi Chapter Waterline Extensions
- 33. F4042 Reauthorization Iyanbito Chapter Water and Drainage System
- 34. F4045 Reauthorization Chichiltah Chapter Vanderwagen Water System
- 35. F4055 Reauthorization Tse Alnaoztii Chapter Regional San Juan
- 36. F4056 Reauthorization Two Grey Hills Chapter Regional San Juan
- 37. F4059 Reauthorization Naschitti Chapter Regional San Juan Lateral
- ii. New Mexico-Navajo Nation Project Coordination Meeting on Oct 15, 2021
- iii. IAD Grant Management Training for FY2021 Projects on
- iv. Special District NM ICIPs (4) were published by NM DFA December 21, 2021.
- v. Fifty-five (55) Tribal Government NM ICIPs and four special Districts were reviewed and corrected by CPMD and NM DFA in November. All 59 ICIPs were published by NM DFA on December 21, 2021. Includes 29 Eastern Agency chapters NM ICIPs, 13 Northern Agency chapters NM ICIPs, 10 Ft. Defiance chapters NM ICIPs, one (1) chapter NM ICIP in Chinle

Agency, four (4) Special Districts and the Navajo Nation NM ICIP. Twenty-two (22) Senior Center NM ICIPs submitted to NM DFA in October and are currently under review by NM DFA.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER DEPARTMENT

- 1. Submitted all FY22 Annual Budget allocations for all 110 chapters and chapters received their annual allocation checks through direct deposits or mailed checks from the Office of the Controller.
- 2. Submitted Agriculture Infrastructure Funds (AIF) budget packets but these funds were delayed as they were part of the FY22 carryover funds. Submitted budget revision forms for the FY22 carryover AIF funds.
- 3. Provided updated guidance and information on ARPA Projects for chapters with Division of Community Development ARPA Team.
- 4. Assisted chapters with MIP operations and developing and submitting all required documents for chapters with new MIP software. The new MIP system is helping ASC with Sanctions and Corrective Action Plans for chapters.
- 5. Participated in FEMA Reimbursement sessions with FEMA Representatives to review and submit documents for FEMA review for all 110 chapters and the Kayenta Township.

#### COMMUNITY HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

- 1. CDBG:
- a. FY-16/18 Kaibeto (Scattered No. 2) powerline project: Pre-construction meeting held on 11/5/21 for 8 customers. A total of 3.71 miles of new electric service line.
- b. FY-19/20 Tselani/Cottonwood (Phase-1 Scattered) powerline project: Final Inspection was done on 12/22/21. A total of (8) customers received new electric service.
- c. FY19/20 Greasewood Springs (Antelope Trail) powerline project: The HUD environmental assessment was complete and the request for release of funds was sent to HUD on 12/20/21.
- d. The CDBG Program electronically submitted a ICDBG application to U.S. DHUD in the amount of\$3,694,79 for (4) chapter powerline projects.
- e. CDBG Program was awarded \$3.45 million from the ICDBG ARPA Imminent Threat grant funds to serve (66) households with cistern & septic systems.
- 2. HIP:
- a. FY-20 Projects: HIP completed one-bedroom construction in Mariano Lake, New Mexico. Ownership documentation was given to the owner on December 03, 2021. Project at Indian Wells is at 60% and is on hold for electric rough-in due to no electrician on board.
- b. FY-20 Projects: Started on two (one-bedroom) house constructions at Dalton Pass, NM and Klagetoh, AZ.
- c. Attended the ASC Work session and Finalization on the DCD Plan of Operation session in Twin Arrows, AZ on December 13, 2021.
- d. Received three (3) applications for the Carpenter positions and interviews are scheduled for January 03, 2021.

HIP deadline for FY22 Housing application submittal was on November 24, 2021. Eligibility technicians are reviewing the application for eligibility and preparing to enter them into the TAPR Excel workbook. The workplan is due on January 17, 2021.

#### CHID:

- a. BIA 93-638 DFMC funds were transferred to the Navajo Nation to begin improvement construction on the Many Farms Community School.
- b. DOJ approved a Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Funds expenditure plan for the amount of \$200 million for new housing construction and \$30 million for renovations, and was deemed eligible.
- c. CHID has drafted an amended plan of operation, which has included additional department tasks for housing activities and additional personnel.
- d. CHID has assisted several Chapters with home assessments, repairs and purchases of building materials to help repair damaged homes due to bad weather conditions.
- e. CHID has assisted several Chapters with about (8) burial site excavation services for their community members.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- 1. 65 chapters provided with IT technical assistance for website, passwords, training, equipment, soft-ware, email, WIND, and connectivity issues.
- 2. 3 DCD newsletters published (October, November, December)
- 3. Chapter trainings conducted:
- a. Office Hours assistance one-on-one training sessions on chapter websites, WIND, and Google Apps held on Tuesday and Thursdays throughout the quarter.
- b. Chapter website training conducted on December 8-9, 2021 with morning and afternoon sessions. Topics covered included a refresher on basic website maintenance tasks and user-pro-vided problems to solve together for morning sessions. The afternoon session was for more advanced topics like setting up blogs or creating new pages.
- 4. Upgraded and replaced obsolete DCD Admin tech equipment with new computers, printers, scanners, and software. Installed new security door module for the front door to provide access control to the general public to comply with COVID-19 mitigation best practices. Upgraded video conferencing equipment to provide a better experience for remote meeting sessions.

#### **RURAL ADDRESSING**

1. Conducted conference calls with Delegate Kee Allan Begay's chapters where representatives called in from Many Farms, Low Mountain, Tachii'-Blue Gap, Tselani-Cottonwood, and Whippoorwill Springs chapters. The calls focused on the need for chapters to appoint LRAC (local rural addressing committee) members so that some rural addressing progress can be made.

- 2. Completed a request to establish physical address numbers for Bureau of Reclamation for the water pipeline pumps #2 east of Table Mesa (south of Shiprock) and pump #2 across from truck weigh station on Highway US-491.
- 3. Conducted five DCD safety team meetings and distributed self-test kits to DCD staff that included the DCD field offices in Tuba City, Whitecone, Chinle, Kayenta, Shiprock, and Crownpoint with Baca-Gallup office.
- 4. Conducted public hearing for Black Mesa LRAC when they presented their road centerline names to the community. These road names were approved by the chapter at a duly called chapter meeting. LRAC members are now acquiring quotations for the road/street sign materials.
- 5. DCD teamwork helped in drafting a plan of operation and an organization chart for the Addressing Authority department for RDC approval.

#### **CHALLENGES**

#### CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

- 1. Two Navajo laws were waived by 23rd NN Council to approve Sihasin Legislation-35-18. They are 12 N.N.C. Section 1310 (F) NN Bond Financing Act and [TCDCJY-77-99 Capital Improvement Projects Guidelines, Procedures. This made implementing the projects challenging as some were not "shovel ready or construction ready".
- 2. Executive Orders. 001-20, 003-20, 004-20, 005-20, 006-20, 008-20, 010-20, 011-20, 012-20, 002-21 and 003-21, 002-21, 003-21, 004-21 and 007-21 due to COVID-19 has severely limited project activi-ties including processing paperwork, contracts, fieldwork and construction.
- 3. CPMD staff currently work with a 72% workforce in the office and are following Navajo Nation Guidelines due to COVID-19. Currently the department is lacking six full time positions. Four posi-tions are being advertised that were vacated by 4 staff who retired Sept. 30, 2021. The other posi-tion that was vacated by a staff who retired April 30, 2021 remains unfilled due to salary adjust-ment.
- a. The Registered Architect position with adjusted salary is being advertised publicly and is open until filled.
- b. The Project Manager and Construction Supervisor positions were advertised and closed on Oct. 5, 2021. These positions received referrals and are pending review.
- c. The job vacancy announcement for the Contract Analyst and Contract Compliance Officer positions were sent to DPM to be advertised.

d. The Department Manager position received a referral and is pending review.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER DEPARTMENT

The advertisement of vacant positions and referrals has been a challenge as well as hiring new employees due to the high resignation of current employees. The Department of Personnel Manage ment's process has been delayed due to lack of staff at DPM as well as limited staff at the ASC Department. New Administrative Assistant was hired last week and should improve our response time at our level.

The process with the Office of the Controller for the FY22 RDPs for annual budget allocations was delayed due to the signature approval process and delays at OOC due to a lack of staff. The process with OMB could be streamlined more to help get chapter budgets into the WIND system sooner.

Conflicts and discord at many chapters continues to be a challenge on a daily basis. Chapter complaints and conflicts include chapter employees, chapter officials and chapter sub-committees and the public. Conflict mediation and conflict resolution and peacemaking is needed but supervisory authority and training on supervisory roles would greatly improve the situation. Chapter reform is strongly recommended and supported by the ASC Department Manager.

Legislations that impact the chapters create challenges when chapters are not consulted and when ASC service area staff are not included in the planning phases. DCD and ASC does not have the staff-ing capacity to manage all of legislations that are to be implemented with 110 Chapters (example AIF, ARPA, etc). More temporary staff or positions are needed included resources. The DCD Plan of Operation needs to be amended in January with the Resources & Development Committee.

COVID emergency and safety concerns continue to impact chapter employees and chapter officials. ASC staff are also impacted with exposure and delays in performing duties due to a lack of available staff. The 3-person quorum legislation is causing challenges and confusion at the chapters and has created non-compliance issues, audit findings, misuse or abuse of chapter resolutions and decisions. Strongly recommend that COVID awareness and education be made to support the regular quorum limits for public chapter meetings.

#### COMMUNITY HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

1. CDBG:

- a. Delay in the submission of environmental documents to the CDBG Program FY'2019/2020 Leupp powerline extension project.
- b. Homeowners/Chapter delay in completing house-wiring for Chapter powerline projects to commence construction for customers to receive electrical service by NTUA.
- 2. HIP:
- a. Personnel: Hiring of needed positions such as Sr. Electrician, Plumber, Carpenter and Eligibility Technicians. We do have a plumber but he is on short term disability and hopefully he will re-turn in January.
- b. With the winter weather approaching, the project will be put on hold which will slow the con-struction on the projects.
- c. Assessment for renovation or new housing needs to be revisited since we have not been follow-ing the procedures set in the Scope of Work and Indian Affairs Housing Improvement Program (HIP).
- 3. CHID:
- a. The Nation is waiting on the transfer of funds from BIA-DFMC for two (2) school projects: Greasewood Springs Community School and Greyhills High School.
- b. Delay in completing housing renovation projects to due amounts of burial requests being submitted by chapters or community members. Chapters need to hire heavy equipment operators to assist with these types of services.
- c. A secured location, preferably in the Window Rock area, is needed to store heavy equipment, construction equipment and building materials. The current location at HIP yard is unsafe and unsecured to store valuable equipment and supplies.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- 1. Continuing COVID-related restrictions make it challenging to provide training to chapter staff. The online trainings do not get as much participation as in-person training usually gets and the broad-band connections at the chapters are sometimes problematic. DCD IT tries to remedy this by offer-ing several training opportunities for DCD and chapter staff to work one-on-one with DCD IT staff on resolving issues or receiving additional training on specific topics or cases.
- 2. Chapters are asking for licenses for Microsoft Office. DCD does not have the resources to purchase extra licenses for these types of software. Chapter staff are reminded to include these additional costs to their operating budgets. Additionally, chapter staff are directed to

- existing free resources such as Google Docs that can be used to edit and create Microsoft Office documents.
- 3. The ongoing COVID-related restrictions result in staff having to work more often from remote locations. More training is needed for staff who are working remotely on available tools, resources, and best practices especially on electronic document processing and remote communication. DCD IT holds weekly mini-training sessions for staff for these types of situations. However, staff need to take advantage of these opportunities.

#### **RURAL ADDRESSING**

- 1. Additional rural addressing staff is needed so that they can be assigned to certain chapters to complete the rural addressing tasks and establish physical address numbers.
- 2. Funding is a major barrier to achieving deliverables from NN Addressing Authority. We need funding:
- a. to purchase equipment such as jack-hammers and gas-powered base post installation tools to install road/street signs and DMI (digital meter instrument) that will allow us to measure distance on road centerlines;
- b. to purchase 10-ft. U-channel posts and post caps and cross-brackets with base posts;
- c. to purchase structure sign materials; and
- d. to sponsor a rural addressing summit to provide public outreach and conduct radio forums to publicize the PAV (phyiscal address verification) request process and explain the online web portal requesting platform.

#### Project # 1: DCD is assisting with managing ARPA funding requests:

- Formed a core ARPA team that has been meeting frequently and has successfully processed the chapter ARPA project submissions for inclusion in the ARPA funding proposals
- Secured on-call consulting services from Dibble Engineering
- Mobilized 110 chapters to submit information via the DCD ARPA portal
- DCD has taken the lead on the water and housing ARPA projects
- Participated in all NABI sessions answering questions and providing background information

#### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
10/06/2021	Black Mesa Chapter	Rural Addressing Public Hearing	200+	Road centerline name presentation
12/8/2021	Online	Chapter Website Training and Work Session	110 chap- ters	Chapter website training and work session for chapters. One session in the morning and another in the afternoon.
12/9/2021	Online	Chapter Website Training and Work Session	110 chap- ters	Chapter website training and work session for chapters. One session in the morning and another in the afternoon.
10/18/2021	Mariano Lake Chapter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Truck delivery to service chapter community improvements

10/27/2021	White Cone Chapter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Backhoe delivery to service cha ter community improvements
10/27/2021	Pinon Chap- ter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Backhoe delivery to service cha ter community improvements
10/27/2021	Hardrock Chapter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Backhoe delivery to service cha ter community improvements
11/04/2021	Smith Lake Chapter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Heavy duty truck, trailer and water tank delivery to service chapter community improvements
11/09/2021	Mexican Springs Chap- ter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Water truck delivery to service chapter community improvements
11/30/2021	Tohatchi Chapter	Heavy Equip- ment Delivery	Commu- nity	Backhoe delivery to service cha ter community improvements
12/01/2021	Baca/Gallup Regions	AIF Orientation	Baca/Gal- lup Region Chapters	Provide orientation about the A riculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters
12/01/2021	Shiprock Region	AIF Orientation	Shiprock Region Chapters	Provide orientation about the A riculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters
12/06/2021	Ft. Defiance Region	AIF Orientation	Ft. Defi- ance Re- gion Chap- ters	Provide orientation about the A riculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters
12/07/2021	Dilkon Region	AIF Orientation	Dilkon Re- gion Chap- ters	Provide orientation about the A riculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters

12/07/2021	Chinle Region	AIF Orientation	Chinle Region Chapters	Provide orientation about the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters
12/08/2021	Tuba City Region	AIF Orientation	Tuba City Region Chapters	Provide orientation about the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters
12/09/2021	Kayenta Region	AIF Orientation	Kayenta Region Chapters	Provide orientation about the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to Chapters

#### FY2022 FIRST QUARTER BUDGET REPORT

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	o	Priginal Amount	R	evised Amount	E	Sudget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Fund	Executive Administration	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	s	1,560,126.00	s	2,163,333.60	s	1,325,987.34	61%	12	0
General Fund	Capital Projects Management Dept	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	\$	1,672,665.00	s	1,747,190.10	\$	1,488,476.04	85%	22	0
General Fund	Administrative Services Center	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	5	2,179,018.00	s	2,179,018.00	\$	1,848,985.62	85%	29	0
General Fund	Community Housing & Infrastructure Department	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	\$	441,994.00	s	532,651.13	\$	384,640.69	72%	4	0

### **Division of Economic Development**

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- IV. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- V. CHALLENGES
- VI. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### **Support Services Department**

- 1. Authorized to re-start the Micro-Enterprise Loan Program.
- 2. Increase in KPOC internet bandwidth to meet the demand in ZOOM/virtual meeting participation.
- 3. DED program participation in the implementation of the BIDF and P-Card audit Corrective Action Plans.
- 4. NNDOJ review of the BIDF Records Management Policy completed.
- 5. NNDOJ review of the MOA between OOC and DED regarding the BIDF completed.
- 6. Approval of budget modification for the Tourism Department to continue to employ 4 permanent staff to end of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter. Positions were not funded in Fiscal year 2022.
- 7. Training of staff on the new BIDF loan software (The Mortgage Software) which replaced the defunct Loan Ledger.
- 8. Updating and uploading the Loan Ledger information to the Mortgage Software.

#### **Project Development Department**

- 1. Church Rock Industrial Park
  - a. Bi-weekly meetings continue on the Phase 2 project with the CMAR contractor and the Architect. The anticipated completion of construction is April 2023 due to pricing of construction materials. The Project is facing the post pandemic volatile price on materials for construction.
  - b. The Department organized and sponsored a groundbreaking event with the assistance of IDS+A, NECA and Rhino Health on October 1, 2021. The event was an invitation only (30 people) due to the NN Public Orders and CDC guidelines that will be followed. A Safety Plan was approved by the NN Department of Health.
  - c. Phase II project; which is at the President's office for execution. The firm is Eagle Flight Development.
  - d. Two water project submissions were accepted through the ARPA Review Process. The projects are Upgrade to the Twin Lakes Well and 27.7B Water Line Connection.
- 2. NAPI Industrial Park
  - a. The Department assisted the Shiprock RBDO on a Business Site Lease within the industrial park.
- 3. Fort Defiance Industrial Park
  - a. The Department assisted the Fort Defiance Chapter on resolutions related to the NTUA Headquarters BSL.
- 4. Leupp Industrial Park
  - a. Negotiations were completed this quarter with iina' ba, Inc. The contracts review is

on its third review. The contract now is in a EJCDC format.

- 5. Dennehotso (Yazzie Acres) Industrial
  - a. Negotiations were completed with Powell Ritoch and Associates. The contracts review is at a standstill to the Navajo Department's questions regarding the AIA Contract language and the registration of subcontractors.
- 6. Fort Wingate Land Transfer
  - a. The BCT meeting with stakeholders and tribes was held in November 2021.
- 7. Shiprock Industrial Park
  - a. The Department wrote the Scope of Work and Budget for the Solar Street Lights Project for the State of New Mexico Indian Affairs agreement and sent to Division of Community Development. The Department is waiting on the Capital Outlay office for a budget account number.
- 8. Ganado Shopping Center
  - a. Contract Mod #11 with Arviso Construction is in the 164 process to complete the Subway tenant space.
  - b. The PNR Subway Emergency Operating Agreement was signed by all parties and submitted to Real Estate Department. EOA is in place. The NN will finish out the Subway retail space with the original plans and specifications.
  - c. The Pizza Edge Lease is with the Department on rental rates.
- 9. NahataDziil Bashas Grocery Store
  - a. The Bashas business tenant lese still has not been executed by President Nez. Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation legal counsel, Mr. Larry Ruzow has issues with the provisions of the lease that have been brought to the attention of NNDOJ and the Department. The issues have not been resolved, this matter has been going back and forth with Navajo Department of Justice and ONHIR legal counsel for the last 4 months. The Department completed their part of what ONHIR has questioned. The next steps to move the lease along is at the attorney level.

#### 10. White Cone Speedway Store

a. The Speedway modification will start the 164 process by December 31, 2021. Due to 7 11 Corporation buying out all Speedway stores; Navajo Nation business sites leasing transactions were not immediately addressed. Excess Space from New York was contracted by 7 11 to work on Navajo Nation leases. The new company had to be educated regarding the Navajo Nation leasing process. Navajo DED staff met with the new company, via zoom, and provided information relevant to leasing. 7 11 Corporation will be visiting the Navajo Nation in Spring 2022.

#### 11. Business Site Lease Approving Committee

- a. The Committee has had numerous leasing transactions presented to the Committee in terms of new leases, modifications, assignments, collateral assignments of lease, etc. The Committee continues to meet as scheduled each month.
- 12. Karigan Estates Residential

- a. Construction of private home ownership continues with Navajo Partnership for Housing. Twenty-eight (28) homes were constructed by NPH and have been sold and are occupied.
- b. NPH submitted final costs to DED of approximately \$800,000 to address the eroded lots in order to build more homes.
- c. NPH is running out of buildable lots that will accommodate homes clients are currently requesting to be constructed.

#### 13. Bashas Sale to Raley's Inc.

a. Bashas Corporation provided notice to the Navajo Nation of their company being sold to Raley's Inc., of California based company. Subsequently the issue to assign leases were completed by Division of Economic Development.

#### 14. Shonto Hotel

- a. The construction phase of the project has started on October 25 by Medallion Hospitality as the developer and Benally-Woodruff Construction, LLC as the contractor. The pre-construction session took place on October 15 with all the project participation and regulatory offices to prepare for construction. The site work of the project is in progress.
- 15. The Grant application to Seattle Regional Office, Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration for development of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2020 under the CARES Act. Award letter was issued to Navajo Nation. Execution by Navajo Nation is pending the budget of grant to be revised.
- 16. The Department participated on several meetings relating to economic development projects and activities including the Grant Agreement with NNOG for Blue Gap Store utilizing Permanent Trust Funds.
- 17. The Emergency Operating Agreement was executed by Mr. Bob Worsley of Zennihome and Mr. JT Willie to allow the use of the warehouse at the former NGS site to manufacture steel homes. The operation has started and Zennihome will be responsible for all the infrastructure extension to the warehouse.
- 18. The discussion are in progress with APH and Richard Mike and Nina Heflin for settlement agreement on business site lease issues and concerns.

#### **Real Estate Department**

1. The Real Estate Department under DED is strategizing to structure a more user friendly internal process for businesses on Navajo Nation. To have an easier access to paying lease payments electronically not through paper currency, so that payment can be posted the same day. This is attainable by utilizing the Navajo Nation System or NTLDS, to have any and all information secured from having information breach. Real Estate have created alliance with

Land Department to develop control of all Leases, EOAs, RUPs, and CUPs, through the database system, the would streamline process by a fraction of 50%, making post business leasing activity accessible. With digitalized files of all documentation, converting all HML map and survey plat files to Google Earth capacity. This process is converting Arc files to KMZ and uploaded into Land Department's Google Earth mapping system. This will allow businesses or business ventures to view the land through Google Earth for topo information by layout of coordinates on the business site lease information. Through this process, it will bring more interest to development on Navajo Nation with collaboration with Chapters. Having to start dialogues with Chapters will allow for leadership at the local level to plan and implement plans for all pre-requisite development for land that will be lease for Industrial or Commercial developments. The collaboration with Navajo Land Department and their personnel have been positive with good dialogues with awesome inputs and recommendations that were made by every level of employee within the Departments, making this project a success.

- 1. Revising and making amendments to the Management Plan of the Business Site Leasing for Regulatory and Compliance of overseeing the activities and terms/conditions of a Lease. Department of Justice and Real Estate will be having a teleconference call that will address some internal concerns of some past practices for Real Estate to be able to address these concerns in language writing the will be incorporated into the Amendments to the Management Plan.
- 2. Restart "R.E.D. Cloud" on the Navajo Land Title Data System. Working with Navajo Land & GLDD to develop new BSL numbering system in collaboration with NNOOC/AR that links all lease records to their financial accts. The Convention File of a numbering system the database recognizes, which will also be easy for our clients that have access to database to retrieve. RED is charged with setting up all numbers and upload into database with NN Land Department and GLDD Offices. The staff have been extremely instrumental in having good strategy with records management that takes little work.
- 3. RED hardcopy & digitized files audit. Making sure the each BSL records are accurate and complete. Then scanned for uploading on to the R.E.D. Cloud. The understanding that all Leases, Agreements, and Permits will be uploaded and track in the data base, since all these legal documents have agreements or terms and conditions to a business operation on Navajo Nation.
- 4. The GIS Technician has started reviewing survey plats/maps and converting the ArcGIS shape files to KML files to upload to Land Department data system. With this capacity it will locate the business location on Google Earth mapping system with the accurate coordinates of the four points of their business site lease or business operations.
- 5. The GIS Technician will start on Eastern R.D.B.O BSL files. The process will require to rename document to Land Department data system coding standard. Once done with Eastern files the new numbering system files will be uploaded to Land Department data

system. RED wanted to go live January 2022 for all locations, but the lengthy process that is required for conversion of files and embedding new numbering system and uploading of files, our Office agreed with Land Department to start with Eastern RBDO projects since they have the less amount of leases to be the test project.

- 6. Three business site leases were unilaterally terminated for non-compliance to the terms and conditions of their Lease.
  - NNCH-08-0006 Dine Towing, Cottonwood, AZ
  - NNEN-17-0088 CSB Enterprizes, LLC, Crownpoint, NM. The Lessees filed an appeal to the termination prior to the effective date of the termination: December 09, 2021
  - NNEN-17-0091 Thompson's Aquisitions, LLC, Crownpoint, NM. The effective date of the termination is January 14, 2022.

Three settlement agreements were completed.

- SR-03-178 Arlenco, Incorporated, Shiprock, NM. The Lessee had an outstanding invoice in the amount of \$7,333.59. The Nation agreed to forgive the Lessee \$5,352.39.
- SR-03-179 Arlenco, Incorporated, Shiprock, NM. The Lessee had an outstanding invoice in the amount of \$4,485.89. The Nation agreed to forgive the Lessee \$3,275.08.
- NNSR-09-0032 CJR Properties, LLC, Shiprock, NM. The Lessee had an outstanding invoice in the amount of \$10,932.19. The Nation agreed to forgive the Lessee \$7,988.17.

The Real Estate Department during this 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the FY 2022 has been conducting internal audits for compliance and regulatory of the terms and conditions stipulated in the Leases, EOAs, RUPs, and CUPs. Moving forward out Office will continue to closely monitor duties that Real Estate is charged with under the Management Plan of post business site leasing activities.

7. RED has been meeting with all five RBDOs to ensure all business site lease are accounted for. This reconciliation allows for regional business offices to be accounting all leases, EOAs, RUPs and CUPs with RED to keep inventory updated at all times. Another method of being accountable and can report if any last minute report is requested for number leases on Navajo Nation by oversight committee.

#### 8. New Business Site Leases Approved:

- NNTC-21-0011 Slot Canyon Adventures, LLC. Approved on October 12, 2021.
- NNFD-21-0012 DNA People's Legal Services, Inc. Approved on November 03, 2021

**Emergency Operating Agreements Approved:** 

- E-FD-21-0010 PNR Subway, Ganado, AZ. Approved on December 01, 2021
- E-SR-21-0011 Nizhoni Smiles, Inc., Shiprock, NM. Approved on October 19, 2021
- E-FD-21-0012 Red Mesa Trading Co., Inc. Dilkon Sinclair #532. Approved on October 28, 2021.
- E-FD-21-0013 Bashas Incorporated. Approved on December 07, 2021

#### Revocable Use Permit Approved:

• R-EN-21-0004 Red Mesa Express #526. Approved on October 28, 2021.

#### **Navajo Tourism Department**

- 1. Developed Marketing strategies for re-opening the Navajo Tribal parks and Nation Parks Services. The Marketing strategies allowed small businesses to recapture their businesses that have been impacted; during June December 2021, Utah State University, Blanding Campus, UT, has been working with small businesses in the northern Arizona region; mainly in the Monument Valley tribal park areas. They have provided resources and opportunities to have small enterprises learn and orient themselves and those seeking to further their small business ventures. The USU Blanding Campus has provided a movement to small businesses, which gained momentum with great success, and moved ahead of where no other programs have been achieved in less than six months. The program will continue assisting those seeking resources that may benefit their personal business needs; the next steps are to assist those in the Chinle area with the help of Navajo Technical University. USU has been working with Kayenta Township and Navajo Tourism Department to further the goals and objectives to recapture tourism revenues in the Navajo Nation.
- 2. Redesign of the new and improved Discovernavajo.com (WEBSITE) with Rocky Tano, Obsidian Websites LLC. Tourism Department is working with Obsidian on transitioning the website and to move it over from Real Time Solution.
- 3. In coordination with Navajo Parks & Recreation to develop a Navajo Parks and Recreation. Start-up funding has been granted for the Shiprock Pinnacle Development.

#### **Business Regulatory Department**

1. Business Regulatory Department in conjunction with the Division of Economic Development hosted public hearings on the Navajo Business Opportunity Act (NBOA). Department efforts to amend and improve the NBOA stem from growing concerns from the public and other entities on the effectiveness of the NBOA for Navajo Businesses. Currently the NBOA proposed amendments are with Department of Justice for review and edits.

- 1. Business Regulatory Department has filled all vacant positions within the department. The newly hired staff include Daisha Holyan as Programs & Project Specialist, and Ryan Holgate was promoted to the Senior Economic Development Specialist.
- 2. The Business Regulatory Department Manager has been participating in the ARP working group regarding CJY-41-21. The law mentions Business Regulatory involvement in the procurement process and in regards to the Navajo Business Opportunity Act (NBOA). BRD has been actively involved in discussions and has submitted a Central Support Working Group budget to OPVP and DOJ for review. The budget is asking for one position to assist with ARP funding review of contracts compliance with the NBOA.
- 3. BRD has also been working with DED administration on ARP funds and getting their proposed project reviewed by DOJ on behalf of the applicants applying to use ARP funds for projects and startup cost.
- 4. Assisting with establishing and creation of positions with the FRF Office's Central Support & Regulatory Services. Department Manager for BRD has been actively assisting the FRF to establish business units, personnel positions, professional service contracts, and working with NN Department

#### **Small Business Development Department**

- 1. <u>ZenniHomes Manufacturing</u>: We were able to get ZenniHomes into operation less than one month at NGS site in Page/LeChee area. This manufacturing operation is one of several plan developments for the previous NGS site. ZenniHomes will be employing 100+ jobs for the community. Full operation is scheduled to be February 13, 2022.
- 2. <u>EDO Diagnostic Data Program</u>: The U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration has selected the Navajo Nation to participate in its SelectUSA EDO Diagnostic Data Program. SelectUSA, whose mission is to facilitate business investment in the United States, is launching the second iteration of its program to provide economic development organizations (EDOs) with diagnostic data snapshots on the strengths and opportunities for their location. The snapshots will provide customized information on a region's workforce, industry clusters, education, demographics, and general economic environment. The Navajo Nation is one of sixteen EDOs selected to receive a diagnostic snapshot of its region. The report will include data and analysis of the over 70 zip codes which the Navajo Nation is comprised of. The report will also do a deep dive analysis of Coconino County and the Wood Product Manufacturing, Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing and Warehousing and Storage industries.
- 3. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Opportunity Day (BOD): The SBDD hosted its annual BOD Tuesday, December 7, 2021, it was another huge success for the Division. We had at least over 300 participants on virtual meeting/conference, with 15 presenters from private/federal/state/corporate on contract opportunities, and the Business Matchmaking had 22 Buyers and 73 Sellers for 135 total meetings (15 minutes).

#### Other accomplishments:

- 1. Executive Office Review and Section 164 Review Forms: Reviewed Four (03) Executive Office Review documents, one (01) Section 164 Review Form documents, initiated two (02) Section 164 Review Form Documents.
- 2. Approving Committee Meetings: Scheduled two (02) Committee Meetings for the first quarter, three (03) business site leases and one (01) lease assignment.
- 3. The Department Procured a General Contractor to perform Environmental Remediation, Demolition and Clean Up services for 7 business sites. Project to be completed in Spring 2022.
- 4. The Department Procured a General Contractor to construct infrastructure for the Tuba City TC8 multi-purpose development project. The infrastructure project is to be completed in Spring 2022.
- 5. Administered a Professional Engineering Services contract with Ritoch-Powell & Associates to prepare a site plan and infrastructure construction plans for 7.3 acres of land in Tse Bonito, NM. The construction plans were completed and an invitation for bids was advertised and 2 bids were submitted by general contractors. But the project lacks addition funds to award the contract.
- 6. Administered a Professional Engineering Services contract with Ritoch-Powell & Associates to prepare a site plan and infrastructure construction plans for 22.6 acres of land in Tuba City, AZ. The construction plans are approximately 50% completed.
- 7. Administered a Professional Engineering Services Contract with Westland Resources, Inc. to generate construction documents for the site infrastructure for the Montezuma Creek 25 acres' commercial site. A contract plans are 98% completed and the project will be advertised in January 2022.

#### 1. Eastern Regional Business Development Office:

- a. Pueblo Pintado Convenience Store Based on approved EOA, store operations date has been pushed back due to vender and national supply chain issues. Hope to begin store operations early 2Q but for now working on permanent Business Site Lease.
- b. Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments to assist Eastern RBDO with \$80,000.00 for planning study for the Fort Wingate (sec 15) Economic Feasibility and Preliminary Engineering Analysis studies. Eastern RBDO team in dialogue with Navajo BIA and Eastern Navajo Land Commission Office on land clearances needed for development.
- c. The RBDO Team has been working with Thoreau Chapter leadership and Delegate with two Thoreau developments: *Church's Chicken Mobile Food Truck*, soon to be operating

and with NNOG on Phase 1 developments (mega convenience store) on the 86acres fee land.

- 2. Shiprock Regional Business Development Office:
  - a. Shiprock Hotel Project: Include an overview of the project results towards the objective of your project in line with the structure of the Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement
  - b. Shiprock visitors Complex Project: Pending finalization of Architectural Engineering Designs.

#### **CHALLENGES**

Misinformation from the public and them having an overall lack of understanding of the NBOA and how it helps Priority 1 and 2 vendors. Also, collaboration with other NN offices to help fix the issues with processing time, payments, RFP's, RFQ's, and proper procurement procedures.

Many Departments do not understand the Purchasing and NBOA process. We need to have more presentations done from both Purchasing and Business Regulatory.

The challenges that Real Estate foresee that will be an issues are the funding to pay share to the Database. Real Estate Department staff are converting all files to the database with new numbering system and have it hover in Navajo Nation Cloud that is devoted just to the Navajo Nation has a cost with a good 4 Tier Security compliance. Upon next operating budget year planning, Real Estate Department needs to advocate for funding to get operating budget increase to meet the annual cost share expenses to continue to use the Navajo Nation database system. This would have to be a continual funding for this database accessibility into the future.

Purchase of ZOOM/virtual accounts for all DED programs. DED staff currently using personal ZOOM accounts.

Software training and update of BIDF loan information from the Loan Ledger to The Mortgage Software

#### Support Services Department

- 1. Implementation of the BIDF audit Correction Action Plan. Proposed revision of the Guidelines for the Micro-Enterprise Loan, Small Business Loan and Investment Guidelines and development of the BIDF Records Management Policy.
- 2. Implementation of the PCard audit Correction Action Plan. Revising internal procedures, setting up virtual trainings and internal review of assigned card usage.

#### Navajo Tourism Department

- 1. Lack of solid marketing data and statistics to generate an absolute configuration of analysis of park visitation, revenues generated from tours, and all infrastructures, resources, and agencies to substantiate a well-informed report to shareholders and those entities that may benefit from accurate data and analysis.
- 2. Less research is found; there is not conclusive evidence or a piece of collective information, no formal and statistical analysis on developing an ongoing marketing strategy unique to Navajo tourism and hospitality.
- 3. There is a lack of partnership with other critical Navajo Nation programs; Navajo Parks & Recreation. Marketing strategies, goals & objectives are not shared, and a lack of communication.

#### **Business Regulatory Department**

- Communication with other Navajo Nation entities for collaboration on needed changes to
  existing laws. An example is working with Office of the Controller on the procurement act
  in conjunction with the Navajo Business Opportunity Act's propsoed rules and regulations.
  Dialouge needs to happen to ensure both laws are working together as they should. BRD
  has been active and proactive in discussion, but OOC has been stagnate and non responsive
  to these discussions.
- 2. Navajo Nation processes are outdated and need to be updated to meet the needs of a changing work environment.

#### Real Estate Department

- 1. Filling vacant Senior Appraiser and Compliance Officer positions. The positions especially the Senior Appraiser is a professional position that oftentimes have RBDOs soliciting for a consultant via Business Source list. With this the pay for the position has to be at a high scale pay, to be competitive with off reservation wage, to get a good qualified candidate that will stay and be a part of the team. Upon next year Operating budget for employees these positions would have to be advocated at a higher pay scale.
- 2. Re-activing the Accountant Position, per the BSL Regulations, Accountant would be in close contact with OOC for recording, communicating, reconciling, and address lease payment defaults with Department Manager at the inception of default. Researching and evaluating past practice within the Department, compliance of having Lessee's fulfill their terms and conditions of the contract for business lease have not been controlled. A high percentage of Security Bond has never been received and the business have been in operation for years. RED is advocating to get the position back within the Department.

- 3. Having all of DED buy into the R.E.D. Cloud Navajo Land Title Data System "Beauty Way":
  - a. Exempt from the Federal Archiving Law.
  - b. Exempt from the Freedom of Information Act Law.
  - c. Re-enforce NN Sovereignty by using its own cloud base records management system.
  - d. All NN records will be proprietary and secure.

Being educated on the Navajo Nation Database System, with the Nation's records have a 4 Tier security that makes files hard to breach into, not to mention a Cloud devoted just to Navajo. This system has changed the working process for Land Department in administering thousands of leases on Navajo with retrieval by the seconds when there is a research.

4. Having the "appropriate DED departments" utilize email to submit documents to RED; get away from paper/hard copies, and record of transparency and accountability. The R.E.D., had purchased top line scanners for RBDOs to transmit all documentation to R.E.D., for faster receipt and automatic digitalized into Z Drive File and uploaded into Navajo Nation System. Being in the technology age, need to upgrade to have all technological archiving of paper documentation to digital. R.E.D., is drafting some fillable forms on Word document to assist with staff filling out when submitting a Lease, EOA, RUP or CUP, and other modification or agreements which will electronically be sent through a link on R.E.D. website. This is a short term goal that the Department would like to start utilizing to streamline hand delivery of hard copy documentations.

#### Small Business Development Department

- 1. Concerns with confidently; sensitive/confidential division information is filtering out to the public.
- 2. Concerns with delayed payment requests; payments to businesses are not being issued promptly, vendors are hesitant to conduct business with Navajo Nation offices due to payments being issued 2-3 months late.

#### Chinle Regional Business Development Office

- Lack of additional land in the Chinle Agency prevents further developments and land planning for new businesses. Many land users are opposed to land withdrawal for business, causing the lack of developments leading to revenue drainage to border town businesses.
   Some chapters are requesting relinquishment of commercial lands for other noncommercial purposes.
- 2. Chinle Chapter established water distribution point on a vacant business site causing delay in the re-development and leasing of the site.

#### Eastern Regional Business Development Office

1. (ON-GOING) Eastern RBDO team has been instrumental in seeking more developments and working closing with Chapters. Along this process of more development in Eastern Navajo, is the structure of land, known as the Checkerboard Land Status. Our Office has been in discussion with Bureau of Indian Affairs for more development activities on Executive Order, Indian Allotment, Band Land and soon to be Restricted Fee Land. Development in Eastern Navajo is at slower pace than our neighboring regions of RBDOs. With the assistance of Legislatures and other entities of the Navajo Nation can strive to better the system through policy amendments in hopes of seeing more development.

#### **Navajo Tourism Department:**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
10.25-28.2021	Fort McDowell Casino/Resort	American Indian Tourism Conference	284	Tabling event at conference, provide brochures, promotional items, and information on Navajo destinations.

#### **Business Regulatory Department:**

business Regulator	ry Department.			
Date: (MM/DD/YYYY	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
12.07.2021	Virtual	Navajo Business Opportunity Day	25	Participated in the virtual Business bid-matching event.
12.07.2021	Virtual	Navajo Business Opportunity Day	70	Participated in the virtual Business bid-matching event.
11.04,2021	Virtual	Training on NCC and UCC for DED	7	Trained stakeholders for DED on the Navajo Commercial Code & Uniform Commercial Code.
11.03,2021	Virtual	Training on NCC and UCC for DED	5	Trained stakeholders for DED on the Navajo Commercial Code & Uniform Commercial Code.

#### **Western Business Development Office:**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
11.04.2021	Tuba City	Change Lab	30	Groundbreaking ceremony for
		Groundbreaking		Change Lab.

Department Name: Division of Economic Development
Date Submitted: December 31, 2021

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General	100001	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$643,838	\$711,690	\$470,537	66%	5	0
General	110003	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$661,794	\$677,872	\$535,059	79%	8	0
General	110004	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$913,341	\$942,016	\$725,819	77%	5	0
General	110005	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$351,952	\$371,651	\$298,383	80%	4	1
General	110006	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$399,360	\$399,360	\$323,489	81%	4	1
General	110009	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$456,979	\$712,071	\$353,514	50%	4	0
General	110010	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$415,121	\$439,793	\$351,744	80%	4	1
General	110011	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$345,713	\$352,801	\$274,350	78%	3.5	0
General	110012	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$574,590	\$599,503	\$441,764	74%	6	2
General	110013	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$422,000	\$453,117	\$354,284	78%	3	0
General	110015	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$486,761	\$487,354	\$439,157	90%	7	3
Fiduciary	510003	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$128,576	\$276,578	\$81,875	30%	1.5	0
Fiduciary	510006	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$61,274	\$259,125	\$245,096	95%	0	0
Proprietary	910005	10/1/2021 -9/30/22	\$300,000	\$324,189	\$138,084	43%	2	1
otals			\$6,161,299	\$7,007,120	\$5,033,155	72%	57	9

### Navajo Division of General Services

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1. Navajo Air Transport handed out 2500 water bottles for elderly use to the senior center to be utilized for water storage.
- 2. 2. Insurance Services sent notification to eligible plan members of Medicare D Notice, age 64 and older; that are enrolled in a credible pharmacy benefit plan so they may request to opt out of Medicare D election without a penalty.
- **3.** 3. DIT created and developed a new website for the Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Funds Office, www.FRF.navajo-nsn.gov.
- 4. Employee Housing Program completed 12 employee housing renovation projects throughout the year, other renovations will continue this year.
- 5. Collaboration between NNTU and Facilities Maintenance through Holiday Nursery Contract for landscaping, ground maintenance, and weed abatement services for the Beautification Project.
- 6. DGS Records Management, with the assistance of two (2) temporary employees inventoried 165 boxes of permanent files and 27 boxes from Judicial Branch.
- 7. DGS Employee Housing Program completed 12 housing renovations including replacement of all electrical wiring, plumbing, flooring, wall insulation, and sheetrock. All interior and exterior doors and windows were changed out to energy efficient storm windows and doors.
- 8. DGS DIT created the Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Fund Office website to be a clearinghouse that will, at minimum, educate the public on NNFRF matters, coordinates, facilitates, and ensures expenditure reviews of NNFRF eligibility determinations and accurately reports ARPA reports to all stakeholders.
- 9. DGS Fleet Management Tuba City Technician successfully completing his ASE Master Technician Certification.
- 10. DGS Departments and Programs continue with the Navajo Nation and CDC guidelines for employees and staff to get vaccinated.
- 11. DIT provides network uptime 99.09%(down 5 days out of 365 days). DIT provides a wide array of IT services to assist in many Navajo Nation priority accomplishments. These IT services are the underlying foundation of business continuity and efficiency.
- 12. DGS Departments and Programs attended the Orientation for Navajo Nation Employees, as new or a refresher training. The Employees enjoyed the sessions, one fo the training was a Behavioral and Mental Health Presentation, which is need during this pandemic.
- 13. DGS ISO/Employee Benefits offers Employee Assistance Program; this program will be expanded to provide additional services to the Nation employees on a daily basis.

- 14. Grief Counseling information is offered by the Life Insurance Carrier, MetLife; this has been communicated to employees and their immediate family seeking counseling services.
- 15. DGS Fleet Management provided a response to the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) the Auditor General has requested, the CAP was accepted by HEHSC and now is at Budget and Finance Committee.
- 16. NNTU continued to address Radio Frequency Network 15 outages to restore two way radio communication for first responders.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. The major challenge is not having the Blue modification STC or ICA for the engine mounting of King Air C90, this document is needed to mount the PT6A-35 engines and acquiring the document is difficult not only for Navajo Air Transport, but Dallas Air and other individuals assisting in acquiring the document.
- 2. DCD Capital Project Management Department (CPMD) is not processing contracts in a timely matter. Contracts pending since March 2021.
- 3. E-signature needs to be addressed Nationwide, this must be coordinated as a catalyst for digital documentation.
- 4. Acquiring materials during the pandemic, the vendors have increased costs of materials and supplies.
- 5. Due to low salary schedule, DGS continues to experience difficulty hiring entry level positions.

#### **Outreach and Communication**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
10/13/21	Virtual	NEMSO-New Employee Orientation	45	Communication of Employee Benefit information for newly hired employees and refresher for other employees.
11/17/21	Virtual	NEMSO-New Employee Orientation	60	Communication of Employee Benefit Information for newly hired employees and refresher for other employees
12/01/21	Virtual	Navajo Police Recruits - Training	20	Communication of Employee Benefits for new hired employees.
12/15/21	Virtual	NEMSO-New Employee Orientation	55	Communication of Employee Benefits Information for newly for hired employees and refresher for other employees.

10/19/21	Virtual	Fourth Quarter	23	Updates of Programmatic
10/19/21	Virtual	1	23	INsurance matters and renewals
		Enterprise		
		Meeting		for Enterprise representatives
10/19/21	Virtual	Fourth Quarter	45	Updates of Programmatic
		Chapter Meeting		insurance matters and renewals
				for LGA Chapter Representatives.
12-14-21	Navajo	KnowB4Phising	4559	672 clicks-how many people were
	Nation	campaign		phished or the simulated social
				engineering attack.
10/1/21 -	NN Museum	Drive up	Unlimited	Academic Related
12/31/21		internet access		
,,		for college and		
		university		
		students		
10/1/21 -	DIT Network	OPVP Townhall	Unlimited	Updates on COVID 19, ARPA, etc.
	Dil Network	OF VF TOWITIAL	Omminiced	opuates on COVID 19, ARPA, etc.
12/31/21	DIT Network	Covid-19	Unlimited	NDOH Covid 19 website, NN press
10/1/21 -	Dil Network		Uniimitea	
12/31/21		information		releases & NN government
				announcements related to covid-
		<u> </u>		19.
10/1/21 -	Dit Network	нсос	Stakehold	Updates on COVID-19
12/31/21		Teleconference	er	
			Represent	
			atives	
10/13/21 and	Becenti	Chapter Meeting	19	Presentation of Erate project for
10/19/21	Chapter, San			chapter libraries and approval of
	Juan Chapter			resolution
11/08/21-	Whitecone,	Chapter	218	Presentation of Erate project for
11/30/21	LeChee,	Meetings at		chapter libraries and approval of
' '	Hardrock,	each location		resolution.
	TeecNosPos,			
	Tsaile/Wheat			
	fields,			
	Cornfields,			
	Wideruins,			
	Steamboat,			
	Drystal,			
	Houck,			
	Gadiiahi/Tok			
	oi, Black			
	Mesa,			
	Sanostee,			
	Klagetoh,			
	Beclabito,			
	Shiprock,			
ı	Coppermine,	l	l	

12/09/21- 12/20/21	Standing Rock, Tolani Lake, Jeddito, Teesto and Sweetwater	Chapter Meetings at each location	43	Presentation of Erate project for chapter libraries and approval of resolution
10/04/21 and 11/16-17/2021	Virtual	Sexual Harassment and NN Employee Multi Service Orientation	17	Mandated Training for Sexual Harassment Training and the Multi-service orientation for staff members.

# Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report

Department Name: Division of General Services
Date Submitted: January 5, 2022

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Funds/IDC	Division of General Services	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	532,877	1,030,382.86	910,552.96	88%	5	1
General Funds/IDC	Insurance Service Department	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	222,551	225,713.59	188,779.00	84%	2	0
General Funds/IDC	ISD-Safety Loss	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	40,738	40,738.00	40,738.00	100%	0	0
General Funds/IDC	NN Telecommunication	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	532,935	584,918.00	412,993.14	71%	8	2
General Funds/IDC	Navajo Air Transportation	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	568,860	568,860.00	527,314.38	93%	2	2
General Funds/IDC	Facilities Maintenance Department	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	2,852,523	2,852,523.00	2,494,363.23	87%	44	6
General Funds/IDC	Department of Information Technology	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	2,367,253	2,402,399.70	2,047,865.33	85%	22	4
General Funds/IDC	Records Management	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	261,811	261,811.00	216,767.00	83%	5	0
Fixed Cost	FC - Insurance Premium	10/01/21 00/20/22	4.505.734	4.505.734.00	4 505 734 00	1000/		
Fixed Cost	FC - Utilities	10/01/21 - 09/30/22 10/01/21 - 09/30/22	5,370,225	5.668,141.69	4,505,734.00 3,896,696.86	69%		
Fixed Cost	FC - Telecommunications		-,,	-11				
Fixed Cost	FC - Radio Communications	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	1,358,057	1,758,202.89	1,037,976.86			
Fixed Cost	FC - Facility Maint	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	486,188 2.427,040	702,067.68 3.407.473.55	383,160.36			
Fixed Cost	FC- Department of Information Technology	10/01/21 - 09/30/22 10/01/21 - 09/30/22	800,000	800,000.00	2,400,245.93 800,000.00	100%		
Proprietary	Navajo Air Transportation	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	378,000	378,000.00	378,000.00	100%	2	2
Proprietary	Fleet Management Department	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	11,000,000	12,627,074.65	6,294,615.89	50%	57	11
Proprietary	Records Management - Duplicating Services	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	800,000	1,148,869.00	672,341.00	59%	5	0
Proprietary	ISD - Risk Management Department	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	11,153,800	11,857,977.58	5,274,802.23	44%	15	4
Proprietary	ISD - Group Health	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	51,780,000	51,784,648.24	49,009,660.25	95%	10	1
Proprietary	ISD - Worker's Comp	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	4,000,000	4,101,449.22	3,013,159.55	73%	8	4
Proprietary	Employee Housing Program	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	920,000	920,000.00	697,018.00	76%	11	4
		GRAND TOTALS:	102,358,592	107,626,984.65	85,202,783.97	79%	196	41

# **Navajo Division of Public Safety**

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- IV. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- V. CHALLENGES
- VI. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# 1. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

- Detention Services Adult: 7,384 adult individuals were served this quarter from across the five-adult detention/corrections districts. All required incarcerated individuals received basic hygiene, nutrition and were referred for assessment and intervention services from local resources. 2,244 hours of community services were completed by individuals as part of their court orders. 306 individuals received counseling and 97 of these individuals participated in-group sessions lead by faith-based organizations to address issues of alcohol and substance abuse. Their participation in these individual and group sessions are voluntary.
- Detention Services Juvenile: 26 youth offenders were served this quarter from across two juvenile detention districts. These individuals were given basic hygiene supplies, nutrition, referred for assessment and intervention services from local resources. 4 individuals received counselling and 0 of these individuals participated in-group sessions lead by faith-based organizations to address issues of alcohol and substance abuse
- Motion for Partial Dismissal of the 1992 Consent Decree: a motion to dismiss the entirety of the 1992 Consent Decree was filed in the Window Rock District Court in late November 2021. A hearing was held on December 14, 2021 where the case was continued. This Consent Decree is a 29-year-old decree that was issued by the Window Rock district Court back in November of 1992. This was a class action suit filed by the Navajo inmates who believed they were mistreated, were deprived of adequate nutrition, legal assistance and medical care. In 1992 an agreement was reached with these inmates which were established and the Nation retained all strict requirements in serving the inmates. The old facilities that were built in the late 1950's and early 1960s never met safety codes. Four new correctional facilities were built between 2013 and 2016 and two facilities are in the planning and design stages to address this 1992 Consent Decree.
- 90% of design Plans for a new Shiprock Judicial Public Safety Center: The NDOC continues to work with Parson's Project Management in planning for a new Judicial Public Safety Center in Shiprock, New Mexico is now at 90% complete in design. This facility will be located across from the Northern Medical Center. The team continues to work with local, state, and federal leadership to obtain constructions funds and continuing team meetings to keep abreast of concerns, issues and requests.
  - The new Shiprock Judicial Public Safety Center: this building plan is a 97,759 sq. ft. justice center which includes: the Navajo Police, Criminal Investigations, Courts and related services will be housed in one building. The Corrections facility and the Medical Examiners facility will be separate from the Court and Police facility.
- The Special Diabetes Program: Coordination efforts with the Special Diabetes Programs has been successful in starting up on sight exercise programs in the Adult Detention Centers. The program includes nutrition education, exercise and learning about healthy snacking. The Special Diabetes Program Coordinators who provide the onsite services will provide health snacks as part of their teaching and purchases of sports equipment to be

- used on site with the inmate population.
- The Capacity Builders Program: The Capacity Builders Program have geared up and have returned to providing fatherhood and other services within the Adult Detention facilities. These services are necessary to prepare adult offenders an opportunity at success when they return to their communities. Others services include; substance abuse prevention education, financial and budgeting, anger management, parenting and social skills development.
- Covid Testing within facilities: The Department of Corrections Officers have been trained to do covid19 testing onsite as new arrestees are brought into the corrections facility. Those who test positive are scheduled to see their local health providers and transports are provided by the Corrections program and Navajo Police officers are no longer having to take their arrestees to the local health care centers for testing. This allows NPD to get back on the road as soon as their arrestees are booked into the facilities. A total of 2,690 Covid on-site tests were performed with 12 inmates testing positive and 117 unvaccinated staff tested within this quarter.
- Policy Addendum: DOC completed an addendum Covid-19 policy compliance to stay in compliant with the changes occurring at the National Level.
- Covid testing personnel: DOC has a total of 146 Corrections Officers who are on the job working; 129 personnel were vaccinated with the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and booster shots. 13 personnel have waived vaccinations and being tested every two weeks.
- Annual Renewal of SAFA/SOW: DOC submitted its annual funding and scope of work in September 2021. Due to language issues, the OJS/BIA has requested for removal of certain language, DOC has requested that the language remain the same.
- Judicial and Public Safety facilities replacement: DOC continues to work with the Judical and DPS Executive team on the replacement of Judicial and Public Safety facilities. The Planning has been very productive which allows for the team to submit proposals to the Nations' executive and legislative offices. Not much as far as feedback on construction funding which is needed to start work on five facilities that are 95% construction ready.
- General Wage Adjustments: DOC continues to work on getting the 3% increase for personnel completed. So far there have been two submittals which have been returned by OMB for submittal to finance. DOC is working to get this approved and into the payroll system by next pay period.
- Emergency Procurement: the DOC put out a procurement to purchase two jail modular. The notice on selection is pending and the expected target date for the delivery of modular was by March or April 2022.

# 3. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

 Criminal Investigations districts (Window Rock, Crownpoint, and Shiprock participated in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services monitoring visit for CY 2021.

### 2. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- General Public Information sharing through text messaging using Navajo department of Emergency Management Mass Notification System.
- Successfully located a missing 84-year-old male in Sanders, Az, safe and alive.

### 3. <u>DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE</u>

#### 4. FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

- Continuing Education; Fire Leadership courses, Inspector courses, Instructor courses, Rescue courses, advanced wildland courses are also being scheduled. Continue with Fire Academy training for new recruits.
- Window Rock Fire station interior first floor completed.
- COVID Clean Hands Operation: along with Division of Community Development, distributed 1400+ pellets of hand sanitizers.
- Mobility project for onboard computers for each vehicle is in progress.
- New staff vehicles to be delivered February 2022.
- New Fire Academy to begin March 2022.

# 5. <u>INTERNAL AFFAIRS</u>

- Two investigators successfully completed and passed the Criminal Jurisdiction in Indian Country online training.
- Conducted and completed administrative investigation for another Navajo Nation division/department.

# 6. NAVAJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Patrols continual proactive role in combating DUI impaired drivers, speeders with aggressive traffic enforcement.
- Continued service Shiprock Police District: engaged 14 Northern Agency Chapters, three school districts and BIE education schools in in-person discussions focused on police-citizen information sharing, identifying areas for continued improvement, and local initiatives that can be supported. Included an open and constructive dialogue about public safety concerns regarding speeding in the community, community discharging of firearms, bootlegging, officer presence in the community, missing persons, scholastic neglect, abuse and neglect reporting and response times.
- Continue to Recruit quality and first-rate police recruits and police officers for the Navajo police Department (NPD). This is a priority for NPD.
- Continue with sobriety check-points throughout all police districts.
- McKinley County DWI Task Force recognized 6 Police Officers from the Crownpoint Police District who were proactive in deterring and getting drunk drivers off the road.
- Shop with a Cop: in coordination surrounding law enforcement entities, the Crownpoint Police District volunteered to shop for toys with surrounding children near Gallup, NM.

#### **CHALLENGES**

# 1. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

- The Department has high mileage vehicles which are unsafe to be driven for long distances due to lack of funds. Funds made available under the 638 contracts does not cover purchases on new units. Currently there is over 23 transport and administrative vehicles that need to be replaced.
- One of the biggest issues that NDOC has is funding. The 638 Contract with the BIA/OJS does not provide adequate funds to safely run the Corrections/detention facilities on the Nation. The department continuously has to juggle funds to ensure that there are enough funds to pay for operation costs which include; feeding the inmates, providing uniforms yearly for its officers, pay for holiday/overtime pay. The Nation provides a little over \$700,000 to provide operation and maintenance of these facilities and often a waiting game to fix repairs and to address other needs.

### 2. DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

- A major challenge this quarter for NDCI was the change in the expenditure process of NDCI funds, paying for autopsy and toxicology services provided by the Office of the Medical investigators from Albuquerque and Flagstaff. The barrier jeopardizes achieving program deliverables in death investigations and the postmortem services. NDCI has been diligently working to remove the obstacle preventing the payment on pending invoices for postmortem services provided.
- Challenged with establishing a Missing Persons Unit (MPU) due to limited manpower and funding. NDCI mad a rough draft of a plan in creating a MPU and it is challenged with non-availability of funds.
- Challenged with personnel cost effecting its' hiring plans and anticipated shortfalls. DCI requested for an increase to its base Contract Funding; however, was again denied.
- Challenged with hiring staffs for the Medical Examiners Department (MED). The positions are advertised however, no applications are received for the positions. And Administrative Service Officer position was filled however, due to complications with the positions funding the hired individual resigned the position.
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) laboratory continues to bottleneck evidence examination services due to the laboratory's skeleton crew.

#### 3. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

 Funding, DEM responds to calls for services throughout the Navajo Nation from Child Abductions, Missing Persons, Search and Rescues, Recovery Operations technical assistance requests, with limited funding DEM will have to decline calls for direct services in the future.

• No water line and no waste water are hooked up to the existing office. With COVID-19 still present this is a major challenge to mitigate the risks of COVID-19, and staff have 1 unisex bathroom in another building.

# 4. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

# 5. FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

- Medical Supplies: the department has very limited to no medical supplies and viral decease protective equipment. Our only resource in Navajo EMS to help with supplies on a daily basis responding to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Some financial and Human Resource were made with limited progress.

### 6. INTERNAL AFFAIRS

- Lack of records management software for administrative cases (lack of funding).
- Unable to attend specialty training for administrative investigations for credit towards law enforcement commissions due to COVID-19.
- Lack of equipment for converting old paper to digital

# 7. NAVAJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Shiprock Police District: Closure of the Department of Corrections, Shiprock. This has resulted in offenders detained and arrested for DUIs, public nuisance and other non-mandatory arrest criminal violations to be released in the field to responsible parties. As there is no assistance from the corrections component, NPD is absorbing the transport and overtime costs for mandatory arrest transports to Crownpoint, Chinle or Kayenta. An arrest requires a mandatory medical clearance before booking requiring 30 minutes to four hours of waiting, a round trip travel time of four hours and 30 minutes to 90 minutes of on scene investigation time. this results in up to two officers engaged in mandatory arrest transports at any given time causing our available officers to respond to calls to be reduced by half and doubles our response to critical incidents with only a single officer resulting in officer safety issues. The reduced officers have a causal link to an aggravated battery of an officer during a domestic violence dispute.
- The shiprock police district does not have a prosecutor. Our prosecutor, who must approve criminal complaints for filing, assist with search warrants, prosecutive opinions, consultation on critical incident review and direct interaction with officers was based in Crownpoint. He has since been delegated the Chief Prosecutor for the Navajo Nation and now carries the prosecutorial case load of Crownpoint, Shiprock, and the administrative responsibilities of the Prosecutor program. We are now serving criminal case dockets from late 2019 and early 2020. The pre-COVID backlog in criminal cases is now exacerbated by COVID, longer turnaround time for prosecutorial review and a court program that is closed. Our ability to directly coordinate with prosecutors is hampered by their volume of case load and their remoteness from the Northern Agency community.

- Emergency calls are being prevented from reaching our communication center on a weekly basis since the Frontier infrastructure is dilapidated and the Frontier vendor is non-responsive informing our police communication that they will secure a work ticket and will address the outage during the next business day. Outages affect the basic administrative lines (we do not have dedicated 9-1-1 trucks that our program has been advocation for) which receive emergency calls for all public safety services. Their work ticket process is not flexible as the on shift PSTOs have to know the specific password and the specific account number that the phone lines and data lines are billed under in order to get a work ticket generated. When phone and data services are down, we are missing calls that are dialed to the police district and we lose our network connection to the CODY RMS/CAD system preventing the digital logging of calls and inputting of field dispositions during the outages. Reverting to legacy paper logs is time consuming and not as accurate as an RMS/CAD system.
- The closure of Navajo Nation programs citing COVID risk. Despite being in Orange status and direction from the COVID-19 Worksite Safety Guidelines, many government programs are still locking citizens out from the services that are vital to service to our community. The NPD has not locked its' doors, operate in conditions which are compliant with the Guideline and the flexibility allowed under Orange status. As a partner in the criminal justice process, we cannot efficiently perform to the levels required by our community if we do not have access to the courts or social services. We are receiving more public intakes for court related concerns and social service concerns. Suspected child abuse and neglect is a partnership investigation but since COVID, the action based on reporting has become a patrol function as opposed to a partnership function. Efforts to ameliorate the conditions of locked facilities to the public and securing and increased commitment of assistance from our partner programs have proven difficult. This increased pressure to meet the needs of our community when partner programs are locking their doors to citizen access routes them to us because NPD doors are not locked and our public can speak with us inperson.
- Police Vehicles: high mileages, malfunction due to extreme heat weather, etc. this causes less vehicles for Officers.
- Some districts have challenges with internet infrastructure.
- Relying on outside resources or districts to provide ATB or UTV equipment to conduct searches out in the rough, rugged terrain.

#### OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location and Dept.	Event name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (brief summary)
Oct-Dec 2021	Fire and Rescue	Fire Prevention trainings	9 locations (50)	
Oct-Dec 2021	Fire and Rescue	In House Firefighter training	40 FRS	
10/15/2021	NPD WR, Az	Operation Freedom II	na	Assisted NPD with police services during large public gathering/protesting
10/28/2021	WR, AZ	Trunk or Treat		Participated in Halloween public event
12/06/2021	Ft Defiance, AZ	Toys for Tots		Assisted the NPD
October 2021	Dilkon Az area	Red Ribbon Week	100	Drug and alcohol awareness presentation to staff and students
November 2021	DilKon, AZ	Community Listening session	50	Community concerns and questions for police

# Navajo Department of Health

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The department provided 85,301 prevention education participants related to breast cancer awareness, exercise awareness, fall prevention, severe illness prevention; 725,280 social media views on education and information shared on cultural knowledge, prevention educations, resources, etc.; 4,040 community training participants related to vaccines, COVID19, and basic tobacco cessation and prevention, and financial literacy presentation; 29,991 screenings related to COVID19, food benefits, TB Screenings, and birth cohort screening.; 264 staff training related to ASIST Training, AZ Tribal Opioid and Substance training.
- 2. A total of 371 participated in the Hybrid Running for Stronger Healthier Navajo Nation (RSHNN) 10k event. The overall goal is to have family members increase physical activity to at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity per week to delay the onset of chronic disease.
- 3. Address vacancies of CHR Program (CHR, TB, STD Positions). Program completed 42 CHR/CHW positions of reclassifications and began working with DPM on JVA. Filled 7 of 8 vacant positions (STD program) began interviews for Program Supervisor I, for both STD/TB Programs. Improve reporting documents for CHR Personnel to remain consistent across all CHR service units.
- 4. DBMHS is pursuing Navajo Nation legislation for the approval of a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity to become Medicaid providers. The Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity will allow the Navajo DBMHS to agree with the State of Arizona Healthcare Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Provider Enrollment Form and the State of New Mexico Medical Assistance Division Provider Participation Agreement Form. Overall, DBMHS is working to meet the DBMHS Plan of Operation objective to develop and implement a reimbursement system to bill for and collect third part revenue for behavioral health and co-occurring mental health treatment services.
- 5. Navajo WIC Nutrition Program collaborated with the Fort Defiance Chapter to identify land designation for .539 acres of land located in the old Fort Defiance Chapter designated land. A fenced office building with a paved parking lot will be set up for the Fort Defiance service area. The service area includes Chapters from Navajo, Crystal, Sawmill, Fort Defiance, St. Michaels, Oak Springs, Pine Springs, Lupton, Houck, and Na'ha'tah'dziil. Participation is not limited to these communities nor the Navajo population only, but is open to any qualified applicant. Navajo Nation's Division of Community Development's

Capital Project Management Department provided a cost estimate in the amount of \$1.443,487.26 to complete the project. Navajo WIC secure resolution of support for the land designation and land relinquishment from the Chapter. An application is pending at Navajo Nation's General Land Development Department for Land Designation. Next steps are to secure clearances for Biological and Cultural Resource compliance. The project only begins after securing the compliances. USDA, FNS, WIC Program – SWRO is aware of the project and is willing to support the project in whole. The \$1.443 million may be allocated in February 2022 with a project completion date of September 30, 2022. When completed, this will Fort Defiance WIC clinic first permanent home since the program was established in 1973.

- 6. Program was invited to present Breast Cancer Awareness information during the Navajo Nation Council Fall Session that was done in Navajo and English. Over 1,500 views of the presentation across 3 Council social media platforms.
- 7. DBMHS: The Power and Control wheel (cirriculum) was implemented during the Nation Domestic Violence month in October 2021, to create awareness and inform the general public and clients of violence physical and emotionally.
- 8. Two NSDP staff received their American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) Certified Personal Trainer and ACSM Certified Group Exercise Instructors. Each certification provides skills and knowledge of health and fitness to help participants inhabit a healthy lifestyle.
- 9. Various Zoom presentations by Outreach Prevention Specialists, Treatment Center clinicians and Traditional Practitioners provide Dine Way of Life Teachings that include Cradle Board Presentation with Eastern Navajo Headstart Program; enhancing mental health support with Being Resilient and Coping with Stress, Mindfulness, and providing parenting classes with both western and Dine/Native American approach.
- 10. Provided technical assistance with Suicide Prevention & Response. Navajo Epi Center representative assigned to DAP taskforce.
- 11. CHR is part of the Sexual Response team and Suicide Post-Vention team.

#### **CHALLENGES**

1. OMB, OOC, and DPM delays have contributed to hiring, spending, backpay requests, etc.

The process takes a long time and has resulted in unfavorable situations for potential

- candidates and current employees. The manual system is outdated and needs an overhaul.
- 2. The lack of licensed behavioral health providers/clinicians related to noncompetitive salary schedule, no incentives to maintain or recruit (i.e. loan forgiveness program) and slow hiring process.
- **3.** Accountant shortages several programs are challenged in filling this vital role in the department and programs causing delays and alternative solutions to train or re-train support staff.
- 4. Unspent funding related to capital improvement projects with DCD has been delayed and will likely be more delayed due to ARPA prioritization. This could result in reversion of federal funding because these projects already have been CPMDs list for more than two years. Navajo Special Diabetes Program is in this situation as funding has already been set aside.
- 5. Senior centers are currently closed due to the pandemic. Some schools were shut down due to the pandemic. The Foster Grandparent Program has received about 5 Memorandum of Agreements with schools. These agreements were reviewed and approved by Navajo Department of Justice.
- **6.** There has been no scheduled training on BCOH.
- 7. Cancer Support Groups continue to be closed or limited online.
- **8.** DBMHS Faith-based Counselor retired and currently DBMHS is working with DPM to finalize Pastoral Counselor PCQ then listed as Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA).

### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date:			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
(MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Reached:	(Brief Summary)
10/29/2021	Fort Defiance, AZ	Halloween Curb Side Grab & Go	694	Red Ribbon Week-Bullying Prevention Trunk or Treat Drive Thru Event
10/26/2021	Virtual	Navajo Winter Stories	155	Culture Education 10
11/5/2021	Fort Defiance Family Church	Being Resilient Coping with Stress	127	Being Resilient Coping with StressProvided education on what stress is and how it can effect our emotional, physical, mental, and behavioral health. DBMHS provided awareness of stress management and coping skills.
12/17/21	Fort Defiance Office of Dine Youth	Santa Stop Holiday Drive Thru Curbside Event	250	Provided a Christmas snack pack, resource information and board games to families to promote prevention education, resources, and family engagement before the holidays.
12/22/21	Chinle OTC	Christmas Treat Bags Drive Thru	414	Drive thru event for gift bags
12/13-20/21	All 5 agencies	Distribute PPE for HCOC	1,000+	Community Outreach
12/13-20/21	12 WIC clinics	Distribute PPE for HCOC	~6,000	Community Outreach
10/1-12/4/21	8 service areas	High School Drug free event	728	Community youth outreach
10/1-12/24/21	NN wide	3 mass PPE distribution for HCOC	1,500	Community Outreach

10/1-12/24/21	4 service areas	COVID-19 Infection Prevention Control Training for HCOC	959	Community Outreach
10/18-11/14/21	NN wide	Running for Stronger Healthier Navajo Nation	371	Diabetes education, nutrition education, physical activity promotion
10/7/21	Event Brite/Strava	Virtual Veterans Half Marathon Run	88	Wellness
10/1-12/24/21	Radio Broadcast	KTNN Forum HCOC COVID updates	450,000	Covid updates and education

Department Name: Navajo Department of Health

Date Submitted: 5-Jan-22

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	<b>Budgeted Positions</b>	Current Budget Vacancies
DALTCS:		<u> </u>	7					
State	NM House Bill II	07/01/21-06/30/22	1,177,060	1,177,060	505,876.15	43%	2	0
State	AZ Title III/#3	07/01/21-06/30/22	2,253,228	2,253,228	1,235,386.12	74%	5	1
Navajo Nation	General Funds	10/01/21-09/30/22	12,127,308.8	12,127,308.8	10,425,430.58	21%	255	57
Navajo Nation	Trust Fund	10/01/21-09/30/22	279,073	279,073	273,711	1%	0	0
Federal	AZ/CNCS-FGP	07/01/21-06/30/22	603,980	603,980	546,155.02	89%	1	0
Federal	ACL/Title VI	2020-2024	1,010,600	003,580	504,948.1	50%	1	1
		2020-2024	1,010,000	0	304,948.1	30%	1	
Cancer Prevention Progra		(100.101 0.6100.100	000.000	000.000	201.052.24	200		
External	CDC	6/30/21 - 06/29/22	980,000	980,000	381,252.34	39%	8	0
Health Education/HIV Pr					244 402 44			
Prior Year External	FY'16 Health Educ.	01/01/16-12/31/21	2,219,817	3,211,474.77	244,498.44	8%	36	9
Prior Year External	FY'16 HIV Prevention	01/01/16-12/31/21	167,544	324,902.34	13,615.84	4%	4	1
Prior Year External	FY'17 Health Education	01/01/17-12/31/21	2,725,251	2,783,027	175,602.14	6%	36	9
Prior Year External	FY'17 HIV	01/01/17-12/31/21	169,227	171,688	21,778.27	13%	4	1
	FY'17 HQ Shares -							
Prior Year External	Health	01/01/17-12/31/21	187,744	190,819	67,717.36	35%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'17 HQ Shares - HIV	01/01/17-12/31/21	118,573	117,797.13	34,369.71	29%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'17 Dir Emer Fund - HIV	01/01/17-12/31/21	25,495	25,495	25,495	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'18 Health Education	01/01/18-12/31/21	2,783,027	2,810,808	673,466.88	24%	36	12
Prior Year External	FH'18 HIV - H/C	01/01/18-12/31/21	171,220	173,238	3.35	0%	4	1
Prior Year External	FY'18 HQ Shares - Health	01/01/18-12/31/21	190,819	190,819	78,894.03	41%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'18 HQ Shares - HIV	01/01/18-12/31/21	119,447	120,545	67,212.55	56%	0	0
Prior Year External	Fy'18 Dir Emer Fund HIV	01/01/18-12/31/21	33,157	33,157	20,403.88	62%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'19 Health Education	01/01/19-12/31/21	2,810,808	2,774,477	693,745.9	25%	38	11
Prior Year External	FY'19 HIV - H/C	01/01/19-12/31/21	173,242	173,242	50,756.57	29%	3	0
Prior Year External	FY'19 HQ Shares - Health	01/01/19-12/31/21	190,819	190,819	92,517.25	48%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'19 HQ Shares - HIV	01/01/19-12/31/21	119,729	119,729	101,457.82	85%	0	0
External	FY'20 Health Education	01/01/20-12/31/21	2,810,808	2,810,808	945,246.28	34%	38	8
External	FY'20 HIV/HC	01/01/20-12/31/21	173,242	173,242	36,164.44	21%	3	0
External	FY'20 HQ Shares - Health	01/01/20-12/31/21	190,819	190,819	166,139.6	87%	0	0
External	FY'20 HQ Shares - HIV	01/01/20-12/31/21	119,729	119,729	101,912.9	85%	0	0
External	FY'21 Health Education	01/01/21-12/31/21	2,810,808	2,810,808	1,555,376.4	55%	38	6
External	FY'21 HIV - H/C	01/01/21-12/31/21	173,242	173,242	86,034.98	50%	4	1
External	FY'21 HQ Shares - Health	01/01/21-12/31/21	190,819	190,819	146,585.65	77%	0	0
External	FY'21 HQ Shares - HIV	01/01/21-12/31/21	119,729	119,729	119,729	100%	0	0

VIC Nutrition Program:							×	
External Funds	2022 USDA WIC Nutrition - Admin	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2022	3,435,159	3,435,159	2,655,082.67	77%	45	17
External Funds	2022 USDA WIC Nutrition - Food	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2022	4,508,083	4,508,083	4,233,689.19	94%	0	0
External Funds	WIC Program FY 2021 BFPC	10/01/2020 - 09/30/2023	114,639	114,639	23,074.85	20%	3	0
External Funds	WIC Program FY 2020 BFPC	10/01/2021 - 12/30/2021	140,327	140,327	140,327	100%	3	0
CHR Outreach Program:								
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2016-12/31/2021	6,467,806	12,522,662.55	356,945.78	3%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2017-12/31/2021	6,531,834	6,690,207	3,068,175.2	46%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2017-12/31/2021	388,137	395,960	29,417	7%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2017-12/31/2021	6,000	6,000	6,000	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2018-12/31/2021	6,690,207	6,866,075	736,142.26	11%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2018-12/31/2021	395,960	403,138	4,541.38	1%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2019-12/31/2021	6,866,075	6,797,128	1,319,389.74	19%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2019-12/31/2021	403,138	403,138	403,138	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2020-12/31/2021	6,866,075	6,866,075	1,479,671.35	22%	0	0
Prior Year External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2020-12/31/2021	403,138	403,138	403,138	100%	0	0
External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2021-12/31/2021	6,866,075	6,866,075	3,651,584.6	53%	135	55
External	HMS 638 IHS Contact	1/1/2021-12/31/2021	403,138	403,138	403,138	100%	0	0
External	AZ Dept of Health - TB Control Prog	1/1/2021-12/31/2021	53,774	53,774	53,774	100%	1	1
External	Sub-Award Contract - ECHO	6/1/2021-5/31/2022	433,255	433,255	316,071.25	73%	5	1
External	CDC Coop. Agreement - GHWIC	9/30/2021-9/29/2022	325,000	325,000	275,799.47	85%	3	0

DBMHS:	K210523 HMS 638 Base	1/1/21-12/31/21	17,946,916	17,946,916	11,956,835.91	67%	245	111
External	I.H.S. Contract K210529 HMS 638 HQ	1/1/21-12/31/21	429,227	429,227	429,227	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	I.H.S. Contract K200536 HMS 638 Base		17,946,916	17,946,916	7,581,988.7	42%	245	106
erocus son sover ex	I.H.S. Contract K200544 HMS 638 HQ	1/1/20-12/31/21	12 (S)	W 10		20/09/09/00	0	0
Prior Year External	I.H.S. Contract K190516 HMS 638 Base		429,227	429,227	429,227	100%	100	E PARA
Prior Year External	I.H.S. Contract K190539 HMS 638 HQ	1/1/19-12/31/21	17,946,916	17,946,916	5,153,264.48	29%	250	106
Prior Year External	I.H.S. Contract K180545 HMS 638 Base	1/1/19-12/31/21	492,227	492,227	492,277	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	I.H.S. Contract	1/1/18-12/31/21	17,946,916	17,946,916	3,774,407.61	21%	0	0
Prior Year External	K180553 HMS 638 HQ I.H.S. Contract	1/1/18-12/31/21	484,201	492,348	421,460.23	86%	0	0
Prior Year External	K170530 HMS 638 Base I.H.S. Contract	1/1/17-12/31/21	17,681,135	17,049,638	3,134,596.8	18%	0	0
Prior Year External	K170538 HMS 638 HQ I.H.S. Contract	1/1/17-12/31/21	458,848	458,848	341,925.56	75%	0	0
Prior Year External	K160518 HMS 638 Base I.H.S. Contract	1/1/16-12/31/21	14,589,682	33,876,329.46	8,819,322.29	26%	0	0
Prior Year External	K150537 HMS 638 Base I.H.S. Contract	1/1/15-12/31/21	14,620,463	11,181,709.94	0	0%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147000 DBHS TPR AZ CHINLE REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	44,550	1,636,020	1,423,613.11	87%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147001 DBHS TPR AZ DILKON REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	15,840	234,450.76	221,994.91	95%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147002 DBHS TPR AZ F/D REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	1,650	229,720.68	204,351.56	89%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147003 DBHS TPR AZ T/C REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	1,854,225.7	1,854,225.7	1,768,612.02	95%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147004 DBHS TPR AZ KAIBETO REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	11,550	123,599.26	102,725.46	83%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147007 DBHS TPR AZ K/Y REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	6,270	134,832	129,795.43	96%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147008 DBHS TPR NM C/P REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	1	313,176.78	185,883.66	59%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147009 DBHS TPR NM S/R REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	11,317.39	334,633.46	247,497.81	74%	0	0
Special Revenue Fund/ Service Contract	K147010 DBHS TPR NM GALLUP REIMB	8/1/14-12/31/21	3,099.01	122,097.88	110,939.33	91%	0	0
Special Diabetes Program								
Prior Year External	NSDP-Carry Forward	01/2019-12/2021	6,040,383.47	6,040,383.47	5,479,133.96	91%	0	0
Prior Year External PHEP:	NSDP-Carry Forward	01/2020-12/2021	6,483,988	9,725,932	1,704,412.24	18%	84	21
External	PHEP Annual Funding FY 2018	07/01/2017 - 06/30/2021	227,761	0	10,292.74	5%	2	0
External	PHEP Annual Funding FY 2020	07/01/2019 - 06/30/2021	228,000	76,000	1,360.03	98%	2	1
External	Covid Phase I	03/05/2020 - 03/15/2022	243,168	0	171,357.95	70%	1	0
External	Covid Phase II	03/05/2020 - 03/15/2022	38,246	0	6,025	16%	0	0
External	PHEP Annual Funding	07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021	228,000	0	143,956.65	63%	2	0
External	FY 2021 PHEP Annual Funding	07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021	228,000	0	228,000	100%	2	1
Food Distribution Progra	FY 2022	50112021 - 0013012022	220,000	0	220,000	100%	-	
External	FY'21 USDA FDP ADMIN.	10/01/2020 to 09/30/2022	3,494,529	3,494,529	2,162,865.02	80%	82	28
Prior External	FY'20 USDA FDP	10/01/2019 to	3,494,529	4,331,021	1,048,990.53	76%	81	22
Prior External	ADMIN. FY'20 USDA FDP	09/30/2021 10/01/2019 to	2,000	2,000	2,000	100%	0	0
External	NUTRITION ED.  FY'20 FDPIR CARES ACT - FACILITY & EQUIP. IMPROVEMENT	09/30/2020 09/24/2020 to 09/30/2023	4,219,191	4,219,191	0	100%	0	0

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Navajo Epidemiology Co	enter:							
External	FY 2021 EPI I.H.S - Covid19	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	1,000,000	1,000,000	971,985.74	97%	8	5
External	FY 2021 EPI I.H.S Programs - Core	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	706,760	706,760	670,192.22	95%	7	3
External	FY 2021 EPI I.H.S Programs - NIMHD	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	70,000	70,000	62,731.87	90%	2	1
External	FY 2021 EPI I.H.S Programs - HIV	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	125,000	125,000	125,000	100%	2	2
External	FY 2022 TECHPHI - Core	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	312,548	484,455	402,438.46	83%	6	2
External	FY 2022 TECHPHI - Oral	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	12,500	12,500	2,809.07	22%	1	0
External	FY 2022 CDC TECPHI EVALUATION	9/30/21 - 9/29/2022	100,000	100,000	100,000	100%	1	1
External	FY 20 EPI - UMBRELLA GRANT YR3	8/31/20 - 8/30/2021	22,000	22,000	22,000	100%	0	0
External	FY'19 EPIDE MOA NAU BOARD	4/05/2019 - 4/30/2022	489,699	489,699	486,991.96	99%	4	3
External	EPIDEMIOLOGY - COVID 19 GRANT	6/9/2020 - 6/9/2021	750,000	1,222,180	185,811	15%	0	0
External	EPIDEMIOLOGY - IPV, ACE, SP	08/31/2018-8/30/2023	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	100%	0	0
EH&PP:								
External	113005 OEH General Funds	10/01/19 - 09/30/21	46,401	46,401	-35	0%	1	0
External	K160522 Annual Funding	01/01/16 - 12/30/16	234,837	407,748.93	-526.6	0%	5	1
External	K170534 HQ Shares	01/01/17 - 12/31/17	298,406	301,039	-1,053.2	0%	5	1.
External	K170534 HQ Shares	01/01/17 - 12/31/17	15,904	1,594	3,681.49	23%	0	0
External	K170586 Annual Funding	01/01/18 - 12/30/18	301,039	302,726	-2,192.81	-1%	5	1.
External	K180549HQ Shares	01/01/18 - 12/30/18	15,895	15,895	14,543.86	91%	0	0
External	K180565Annual Funding	01/01/19 - 12/31/19	302,726	302,726	-1,636.56	-1%	5	1
External	K190520 HQ Shares	01/01/19 - 12/31/19	14,864	14,864	4,100	28%	0	0
External	K200540 Annual Funding	01/01/20 - 12/30/20	302,726	302,726	80,105.9	26%	5	3
External	K200547 HQ Shares	01/01/20 - 12/30/20	10,898	10,898	6,312.57	58%	0	0
External	K210528 Annual Funding	01/01/21 - 12/31/21	306,629	306,629	236,809.38	77%	5	4
External	K210534 HQ Shares	01/01/21 - 12/31/21	10,916	10,916	10,916	100%	0	0

KPHN:			100					
Prior Year External	FY'16 Kayenta KPHN	01/01/16-12/31/21	739,112	3,547,967.79	2,487,189.77	70%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'17 Kayenta PHN	01/01/16-12/31/21	3,133,290	3,205,705	2,406,062.58	75%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'17 Dir Emer Fund KPHN	01/01/16-12/31/21	1,865	1,865	1,865	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'18 KPHN Base H/C	01/01/16-12/31/21	3,191,330	3,260,026	2,633,034.55	81%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'18 HQ Shares- KPHN	01/01/16-12/31/21	151,821	154,096	148,090.71	96%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'18 Dir Emer Fund - KPHN	01/01/16-12/31/21	2,426	2,426	2,426	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'19 KPHN Base H/C	01/01/16-12/31/21	3,260,026	3,017,309	2,455,446.89	81%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'19 HQ Shares - KPHN	01/01/17-12/31/21	154,016	154,016	154,016	100%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'20 KPHN Base H/C	01/01/17-12/31/21	3,260,026	3,260,026	2,782,325.63	85%	0	0
Prior Year External	FY'20 HQ Shares - KPHN	01/01/17-12/31/21	154,016	154,016	154,016	100%	0	0
External	FY'21 HQ PHN	01/01/17-12/31/21	3,260,026	3,260,026	2,965,122.9	91%	14	7
External	FY'21 HQ Shares - PHN	01/01/17-12/31/21	154,016	154,016	154,016	100%	0	0
Navajo Uranium:			6					
Navajo Nation	General Funds	10/01/21-09/30/22	376,490	376,490	306,015.78	81%	4	2

# Navajo Division of Social Services

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- IV. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- V. CHALLENGES
- VI. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In preparation for the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Tribal Consultation held on 11/04/2021, tribal statement on H.R. 5376, The Build Back Better Act, specific to Subtitle D for "Birth Through Five Child Care and Early Learning Entitlement Act", was submitted to the Office of the President and Vice President on 11/01/2021.

On 11/12/2021, the Office of the Executive Director (OED), Navajo Department of Justice (DOJ), and Ms. Shawna Ballay, a Consensus Planning consultant, held a Zoom meeting about the feasibility of recouping the Nation's UUFB funding that supported COVID-19 burial assistance from the Nation's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding through the use of Fiscal Recovery Fund expenditure plan.

Through a collaborative effort with the Department for Child Care and Development (DCCD), Department for Self Reliance (DSR), Navajo WIC Program, and Navajo Area IHS' Office of Program Planning, talking points was prepared for the Navajo Nation President, for the First Things First State Tribal Consultation, which was delivered by NDSS executive director on 11/16/2021.

On 12/15/2021, several DSS employees attended a webinar on coordination between LIHEAP and the Emergency Rental Assistance program, which was hosted by the funding agency—ACF/Office of Community Services (OCS). On behalf of the Navajo Nation, the DSS executive director along with a representative of the Cherokee Nation served as panelist on that webinar. The Developmental Disabilities Program (DDP) served 153 members. DDP is preparing for a 5-year reneogiation of its IGA with the Arizona Department of Economic Security's Division of Developmental Disabilities. There are three vacant positions which caused sixty-five (65) cases to be transferred to the State DES/DDD. The DDP continues to provide in office services and support to members, families, and the community. The case managers utilize the OnBase paperless case management database to access member files and records. They have been trained on utilizing this platform virtually and have begun to upload documents for current planning meetings. The DDP continues to host vendor/provider meetings on a monthly basis. During these meetings, current COVID-19 protocols and procedures are discussed. This allows current information to be share openly. Vendors have begun the reopening process of residential group homes and adult day programs. Each vendor outlines their own reopening polices.

The Navajo Treatment Center for Children and their Families (NTCCF) program served a total of 292 children and families. The MSPI traditional practitioner and community involvement specialist provided 31 public service announcements and conducted 12 forums on three radio stations, including KTNN in Window Rock, AZ; KGAK in Gallup, NM; and KNDN in Farmington, NM. The NTCCF program completed its contract negotiations with the Navajo Area IHS on 12/06/2021. The negotiations were to finalize the FY 2022 funding and the Annual Funding Agreement

The DSR processed six separate (6) batches for TANF benefit payment in the total amount of \$3,779,026.00 that served 1,964 customers in October; 2,006 customers in November; and 2,092 customers in December. The Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund was processed for the month of October, November, and December in the total amount of \$685,000.00 which served 274 families. The DSR submitted the required Federal Data Report to the funding agency.

Five (5) DSR customers obtained full-time employment with the support from DSR's Education and Career Services (ECS) section, including: A) a single parent with two (2) children received her commercial driver's license and was hired by the Carter Oil by Parkland USA Trucking Company; B) In a two-parent household with five (5) children, the father received his commercial driver's license and was hired as a truck driver by the Warner Enterprise; C) A single parent with two (2) children obtained her certified nursing assistant license and was hired by the Sage Memorial Hospital; D) A single parent with three (3) children gained employment with the Sinclair convenience store; and E) A single parent with two (2) children was hired by a home healthcare agency in Farmington, NM.

Through the ECS section, eighteen (18) DSR customers completed the Certified Nursing Assistant certificate program at the San Juan College in Farmington, NM and four (4) DSR customers graduated from the Utah State University in Blanding, Utah; of whom, three (3) completed the Heavy Equipment Operator certificate program and one completed a commercial driver training and successfully obtained a Commercial Driver's License. Eight (8) DSR customers are enrolled in the CNA program at the Coconino Community College in Flagstaff, AZ for the Spring 2022 academic year.

Nineteen (19) DSR customers completed the Subsidized Adult Employment (SAE) program with several entities, including Bashas', NTUA, Southwest Indian Foundation, and Chinle Chapter that offered employment and on-the-job training for DSR customers. The ECS section received a Memorandum of Agreement proposal from the Moencopi Day School for six (6) positions, including: maintenance assistant, bus monitor, custodian, food service worker, front desk receptionist, and help desk support assistant.

The Department of Family Services (DFS) in partnership with seven (7) domestic violence shelters with which it contracts provided 2,329 bed night shelter service for 740 adults and children, for an expenditure of \$237,900.00. The Gentle IronHawk domestic violence shelter served 45 individuals with a total of 535 bed nights. The DFS operates one domestic violence shelter located in Shiprock, NM which served 29 clients. DFS licensed 17 foster homes, of which 13 were on the Nation and 4 were off the Nation. In partnership with the Southwest Indian Foundation, 70 Christmas food vouchers were donated to DFS families. The Arizona Long Term Care System provided case management servcies to 84% members in Tuba City, 87% members in Dilkon, 87% members in Chinle, and 84% members in Fort Defiance.

The Navajo Family Assistance Services (NFAS) served 1,162 eligible households with home energy assistance for a total amount of \$733,243.00 utilizing the CARES Act LIHEAP funding.

For the first time, many eligible Navajo households located off the Navajo Nation in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah received home energy assistance with the CARES Act LIHEAP funding, which was a one-time supplemental funding. Additionally, NFAS processed 194 pending CARES Act LIHEAP applications that were submitted on or before 9/30/2021 for an amount of \$114,200.00. A total of 379 eligible households received home energy assistance for an amount of \$324,481.00 with the regular LIHEAP block grant funding.

NFAS served 5,186 Navajo school-aged children residing and attending school on and off the Navajo Nation with Navajo School Clothing and Supplies for an amount of \$1,296,500.00. NFAS served 118 with General Assistance support in the total amount of \$71,802.50. The NFAS processed 54 COVID-19 burial assistance requests for a total amount of \$187,763.25 and 523 non-COVID-19 burial assistance requests for a total amount of \$1,209,504.01 utilizing the BIA Public Law 93-638 funding.

In November 2021, the NFAS received a Notice of Award from the ACF/OCS for FY 2022 LIHEAP block grant in the amount of \$1,777,952.00, for a period of 10/01/2021 to 9/30/2022. Also on 12/29/2021, the NFAS received the FY 2022 BIA Public Law 93-638 Contract Award of \$1,146,794.00 for the General Assistance and Burial Assistance.

The Navajo Nation's Tribal Plan for the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) was approved on 11/05/2021 by the ACF/OCS. In preparation for the LIHWAP rollout, the OED and NFAS has had several strategy sessions with NTUA. Additionally, the OED reached out to the Ramah Navajo Utility Authority which submitted a list of 83 households who could potentially be eligible for water and wastewater assistance, for a total amount of \$37,652.05, Alamo Navajo School Board, and To'Hajiilee Navajo Chapter, for a possible Services Contract. Further, the OED consulted with the Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction of the Navajo Area IHS regarding water hauling for cistern systems and septic tank cleaning or pumping that could be supported by the LIHWAP funding. These conversations are on-going.

The Navajo Indian Child Welfare Act Progarm (NICWAP) has 381 active cases involving 733 children in 24 states. The highest number of case loads are in Arizona with 196 cases involving 380 children, New Mexico with 69 cases involving 128 children, Utah with 33 cases involving 72 children, California with 24 cases involving 44 children, Colorado with 17 cases involving 34 children, and Texas with 10 cases involving 19 children. A total of 40 new cases were assigned involving 85 children. A total of 62 children were reunited with their biological parents. The NICWAP social workers attended 247 court hearings and 196 meetings pertaining to open ICWA cases that involve Team Decision Making Meeting/Family Centered Meeting/Case Staffing/Treatment team meeting. The social workers conducted 36 home visits with children and families residing on the Navajo Nation, and completed 5 relative home studies. The NICWAP continues to have meetings with the Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc. regarding the clarification of ICWA services provided in the Ramah area. Navajo DOJ requested for clarification as to what authority Ramah Navajo had to handle and administer ICWA cases

because their Public Law 93-638 contract's scope of work does not explicitly allow for ICWA services. Inquiry was also made to what authority Ramah Navajo has to be listed on the Federal Register to receive ICWA notices. Meetings will continue with the Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc. Social Services.

The NICWAP continues to participate in the New Mexico State ICWA legislative bill work group to establish and expand upon the ICWA into New Mexico state law during the 2022 legislative session. The recent meetings were for Tribal State Judicial Consortium members and interested parties to get information and provide feedback on the draft for a State ICWA legislative bill. Navajo DOJ has been present in these work group discussion with NICWAP.

NICWAP continues to address employee matters through recruitment, interviewing, and hiring of an administrative assistant, senior social worker, social worker, research assistant, and case worker. Additionally, consultation with Albuquerque CYFD and Phoenix DCS were held to discuss housing NICWAP social worker on site at each of respective locations.

NICWAP program manager has assessed program inventory and storage unit usage. Several boxes of old documents, unused supplies, outdated/unused program promotional items, and closed ICWA casefiles. As such two storage units were deemed not necessary to use or to further pay for. Inventory, condensing, and centralizing supplies to one storage unit is the goal. Mass documentation shredding has been occurring utilizing the Navajo Records Management and program staff. Apart of this project includes contact with the BIA to prepare approximately 50 plus boxes of closed ICWA casefiles for shipment to the American Indian Records Repository.

The DCCD Child Care Re-opening Plan is finalized and ready for printing and distribution. The entire DCCD employees are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. By 12/15/2021, eight (8) child care centers have re-opened to provide child care services at Karigan, Little Miss Muffet, Kii Doo Baa I, Many Farms, Nooseli Beolta, Pinon, Tsaile, and T'iists'ozi, with a total of seventy-seven (77) children. The DCCD private provider subsidy payments in the amount of \$37,283.83 for Oct. 2021 was processed for 52 providers who provided child care services for 134 children. The subsidy payments for Nov. 2021 was submitted to OOC in the amount of \$33,848.48 for 50 providers who provided child care services for 124 children. The DCCD met its internal deadline of 11/30/2021 to complete and submit the Annual Navajo Nation FY2021 ACF-700 Data Report to the funding agency by entering the final data into the Child Care Automated Reporting System (CARS). The final report is due 12/31/2021.

DCCD Maintenance Department completed installation of new playground equipment at the following child care centers in the Shiprock Region: 1) Alchini Nizhoni Child Care Center, 2) Hogback Child Care Center, and 3) Two Grey Hills Child Care Center. DCCD Management Information System section programmed and set-up six (6) new personal computers with monitors at Shiprock Child Care Center and two (2) personal computers for new employees who onboarded on 12/6/2021.

The DCCD recieved a total allocation of \$49,257,349.00 from the ARPA Stabilization Fund for which it has had a series of education and training with the funding agency to receive guidance and recommendations on how to develop and implement a plan for such a large allocation. Subsequently, eleven (11) teams were formed to begin planning for and implementing the Tribal Plan.

The DCCD Fund Management Plan for the day care program revolving account began the 164 review process. Once it clears the OMB and OOC favorable review, and DOJ's legal sufficiency review, the plans will be submitted to the Legislative Branch for a bill sponsor, It will be considered by the Health, Education and Human Services and the Budget and Finance Committees for approval.

The NTCCF completed the 164 Review and submission of the Public Law 93-638 Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for fiscal year 2022. The new successor Annual Funding Agreement commenced on 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022. The NTCCF completed the 164 Review and negotiation of the Public Law 93-638 Contract with the Indian Health Service for fiscal year 2022. The new Annual Funding Agreement commenced on 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022. All NTCCF employees completed the Navajo Nation Privacy and Information Act training provided by the Navajo Nation Department of Justice. The necessity of this training was imperative as it Navajo Nation Law and it relates to release of information for our children and families. All NTCCF employees completed the "Trauma and Resilience in Tribal Communities" provided by the National Native Children's Trauma Center - University of Montana. The overall goal is to become a Trauma Informed Organization.

The Utah Navajo Health Systems opened the Gentle Ironhawk Shelter in October, 2021. The shelter served 45 residents, of which there were 535 bed nights.

The Department for Self Reliance (DSR) completed six (6) batch runs totaling \$3,779,026.00 which served 1,964 customers in October; 2,006 customers in November; and 2,092 customers in December. The Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund was processed for the months of October, November, and December for a total amount of \$685,000.00 which served 274 families. The Education and Career Services (ECS) accomplished the following: five (5) DSR customers obtained full-time employment with Carter Oil Trucking Company, Warner Enterprise Trucking Company, Sage Memorial Hospital, Sinclair Convenience Store, and a Home Healthcare Agency; eighteen (18) DSR customers completed the Certified Nursing Assistant certificate program at the San Juan College in Farmington, NM and four (4) DSR customers graduated from the Utah State University in Blanding, Utah with a Heavy Equipment Operator Certificate and Commercial Drivers License (CDL); Nineteen (19) DSR customers completed the Subsidized Adult Employment (SAE) program with several entities, including Bashas', NTUA, Southwest Indian Foundation, and Chinle Chapter. A total of 186 DSR customers used the services provided by the ECS Training Instructors for a total of 160 training sessions. The DSR Pathway to Quality Services coordinated several training for DSR employees: 121 DSR employees attended the Annual Sexual Harassment Awareness training, which was conducted by the Nation's Staff Development and

Training Department staff; 119 DSR employees attended the Trauma and Resiliency in Tribal Communities training conducted by the Casey Foundation and National Native Children's Trauma Center; 4 new employees completed the onboarding training. The Tribal Family Assistance Plan (TFAP) for the period of 10/01/2021 to 9/30/2024, was approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. The TFAP describes how the DSR plans to operate its Tribal TANF program, including eligibility criteria, service area, and types of assistance and services to be provided. The Navajo Nation will receive \$31,174,026.00 annually for the three-year period.

The NTCCF program provides therapy/counseling services to high risk and at-risk children and families of the Navajo Nation. A total number of children and families receiving services was 292, the number of Intakes completed at the NTCCF program offices was 36, the number of referrals from local resources at the NTCCF program offices was 90, the total number of treatment hours was 287 and the number of case consultation hours was 486. The NTCCF MSPI Project, a four year grant has ended on September 30, 2021. In the four years of the grant, the program promoted early intervention strategies and implement positive youth development programming to reduce risk factors for suicidal behavior and substance abuse. The final number of individuals receiving prevention services for the First Quarter was 552. With the Pandemic, the best method of providing prevention services was through live radio forums and Public Service Announcement on various topics such as traditional male and female roles, fatherhood, methamphetamines, substance use and abuse, signs and symptoms of suicide and active parenting. The NTCCF hired a Community Involvement Specialist (CIS) under this project to disseminate prevention information in the Navajo and English languages. The CIS with assistance from the Traditional Practitioner provided information in both languages to the people of the Navajo Nation through radio forums and broadcasts. The NTCCF program continues to work with children and families in the integration of Navajo Traditional services into the NTCCF Clinical Program. The program complements the Western treatment with Traditional Services. This has resulted in an increase in successful treatment outcomes for children and families. The traditional component of the Program has provided services to 154 children and their families. Traditional services also consist of the Traditional practitioner assisting clients in planning Traditional ceremonies and providing an explanation of the ceremonies. The Traditional teachings and explanation assists our clients in understanding the purpose of the ceremonies.

Effective November 1, 2021, DCCD implemented a change in payment rates of services that is less than an hour. In previous years, payment for services performed that is less than an hour was disallowed. This change will support child care providers for services occuring for less than an hour. Child care providers devote their time and resources to care for Navajo children and they deserve the subsidy as defined in the Navajo Nation Tribal Plan 2020-2022. As of to date, eight (8) child care centers have re-opened to provide child care services at Karigan, Little Miss Muffet, Kii Doo Baa I, Many Farms, Nooseli Beolta, Pinon, Tsaile, and T'iists'ozi, with a total of seventy-seven (77) children. With the opening of the child care centers, the important component is to ensure that the staff continue with completing their professional Health and Safety Training required by the funding agency. Additionally, other trainings such as the parent orientation is

being held to assist the parents in knowing what is required when their child comes to the child care center. The direct service personnel also complete other training which can be beneficial personally such as the trauma training.

DSR customers have sought employment opportunities outside the Navajo Nation. DSR field offices have been proactive with customers by creating different events to allow customers to take part in raffles for holidays and kid friendly events. Northern TREE Shelter, housed 29 clients (women, men and children) and provided services. DFS Window Rock field office coordinated with the Southwest Indian Foundation and the Foundation donated 70 Christmas food vouchers to DFS families. The ALTCS caseload was that elderlies resided in the home with family support are as follows: 84% -Tuba City, 67% - Dilkon, 87% - Chinle and 84% - Ft. Defiance.

NTCCF continues to provides Behavioral Health services to children and families across the Navajo Nation. This includes at risk and high risk children and families in the child welfare system. The overall goal for the MSPI project was to implement prevention education methods, increase awareness and information on the topics of methamphetamine, substance abuse and suicide prevention. NTCCF implements and integrates Navajo Traditional and Cultural teachings on the fundamental Diné Life Way Values and Principles for children and families. The integration of modern and traditional healing is an important concept in promoting holistic treatment. The traditional component continues to provide services to children and their families. NTCCF has increased awareness of meth, substance abuse and suicide prevention through media campaigns and public radio forums utilizing the Navajo Language to reach out to families in the rural areas of the Navajo Nation. The Traditional Practitioner and MSPI Community Involvement Specialist have been working together to provide public service announcements on local radio stations. The actual number of actual listener is difficult to determine due to the radio stations inability to measure the number of listeners at a given time. However, local radio stations such as KTNN in Window Rock, AZ; KGAK in Gallup, NM; and KNDN in Farmington, NM can be heard on the world wide web.

All DCCD staff attended the Trauma and Resilience in Tribal Communities training held on November 19, 2021. DFS Tuba City field office collaborates with Coconino Victim Witness Services on additional victim support services especially victims of domestic violence. DFS collaborates with local mental and behavioral health agencies to ensure services are provided for families and monitor client progress. ALTCS have coordinated with border town communities in meeting elderly client's behavioral health needs.

DSR Field office have helped by providing information on Behavioral Health services that are offered at local hospitals or clinics to customers who were seeking information.

DSR field offices have help provide housing applications for the Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) and other housing authorities within the area upon request to DSR families.

DFS continued to coordinate with NHA field offices to refer clients who are in need of housing assistance. The Northern TREE Shelter assisted at least six families with housing referrals and were placed on waiting lists.

DCCD was allocated \$15,000.00 as outlined in the FY2022 Navajo Nation General Fund Comprehensive Budget. Department of Child Care and Development received its GY22 Quarter 1 Discretionary Notice of Award letter in the amount of 7,978,454.00. In addition, DCCD received its GY2022 Quarter 1 Mandatory Notice of Award letter in the amount of \$2,442,642.00 on 10/22/2021. The DCCD received a total allocation of \$49,257,349.00 from the ARPA Stabilization Fund for which it has had a series of education and training with the funding agency to receive guidance and recommendations on how to develop and implement a plan for such a large allocation.

The Office of the Controller and Office of Management and Budget are short staffed, which slows their review and return of documents to the department. Therefore, department has been impacted with implementing their grants and begin spending their funds timely.

Several DSR customers were enrolled in Post Secondary Education and have completed the fall semester. DFS field offices conduct Family Group and Family Conference meetings with families in the Navajo language as much as possible. DFS field staff communicate with clients and other resources in the Navajo language as much as possible.

The DSR Pathway to Self Reliance Policy Manual has been finalized and a draft has been submitted through the 164 Review Process.

DFS field offices and the Northern TREE Shelter have ongoing and open communication with local law enforcement leadership to enhance service delivery and strengthen collaborative efforts. This quarter; DFS, Tuba City Prosecutor's Office, Coconino County Victim Services, and Tuba City Police Department held quarterly meeting to discuss victim services. DFS has provided referrals to Peacemaking Program as further support services for clients. DFS field offices have ongoing collaboration with local Prosecutor's Office in regards to client monitoring, dependency actions, and victim services.

Planning phase of construction of new child care centers in five locations which include Rocksprings, Kayenta, Sanders, Chinle, and Fort Defiance. The primary focus is on the Kayenta Project. Construction of new sites will bring job opportunities and provide child care services for families.

The DCCD participated in First Things First Conference to discuss how many children are enrolled in the child care centers and has the enrollment decreased or increased and by what percentage. Did Covid-19 impact access to the program. Did the Child Care change its approach in its service delivery? What were child care great challenges and did Child Care change its program perspective?

#### **CHALLENGES**

Currently, NICWAP is only handling State Child Dependency Cases involving Navajo children. However, the provision of the ICWA of 1978 applies to all Guardianship, Adoption and State Child Dependency Cases that involve an 'Indian' child. Guidance from Navajo DOJ was sought to clarify whether the NICWAP has been responding appropriately to Notices received pertaining to Private Guardianship and Adoption Petitions, where there is reason to believe that ICWA applies. Historically, the NICWAP had handled all Guardianship, Adoption and State Child Dependency Cases but that had changed where NICWAP would indicate we do not have a position to these types of cases. The NICWAP is working with Navajo DOJ to ensure the program is acting in accordance with the ICWA of 1978.

The NICWAP sent New Mexico Court of Appeals case law to Navajo DOJ for guidance on the impacts on the Navajo ICWA cases and the role of the Qualified Expert Witness (QEW), which all NICWAP social workers currently serve. The NICWAP has already experienced implementation of this particular case law at a court hearing where a NICWAP social worker was not deemed qualified as the QEW. In the meantime, NICWAP is strongly encouraging staff to begin to access and take advantage of training opportunities to meet the additional QEW component while awaiting DOJ guidance.

The DCCD is challeneged by hiring additional employees, reducing the staff - child ratio to comply with the CDC guidelines, facility deficiencies, and the COVID-19 pandemic contribute to the low enrollment.

The OED is challenged with implementing NNC Resolution CO-54-21 appropriately. That resolution requires OED to purchase eight (8) vehicles and assign it to the Tohatchi Area Opportunity & Services (TAOS), a non-Navajo Nation entity. In carrying out that task, the OED reached out to its assigned DOJ attorney who is coordinating with a colleague. That colleague is working with the Property Management to provide an exception process to its policy. The Navajo Nation Property Management Policy may have to be amended to include provisions for purchasing for and transferring of property to non-Navajo Nation entity.

he NTCCF program is currently providing direct services to clients through various internet platforms and telephone contacts. In consideration of the increase in the variants, the program must comply with CDC Guidelines to protect staff and ensure their health and safety will not be compromised. The MSPI Prevention grant required traveling out to the communities and providing prevention information and strategies to the communities. With the onset of the pandemic, it has been very difficult to go out to the communities and provide information. Therefore, radio and public service announcements continues to be the safest method in reaching out to the people of the Navajo Nation. The NTCCF program experienced many challenges in assisting our clients with Traditional services during the pandemic. Although these services promote healing when

complemeted with Western Treatment Services, it was often difficult to find practitioners that were willing to take the risk and provide these essential services.

DCCD has faced some challenges during the month of October 2021 with processing of monthly subsidy payments to providers. Per the Office of the Controller, since the department (DCCD) is using the Provider Service Agreements instead of contracts, the agreement needs to be reviewed and approved by DOJ. Thereafter, OOC can make an exception to utilize the agreement to encumber the funds. In addition to an approved agreement, OOC also requested a list of all the providers and a copy of W9's for each provider be submtted on an annual basis. Although DCCD met with DOJ on October 5, 2021 to discuss the child care provider service agreement; it still needs to be finalized. Target date to get this completed is end of 2nd Quarter. Outstanding repair work at the child care centers is one of the reasons that child care centers cannot re-open. If the repairs aren't done, then OEH will not issue a sanitation permit which allows the centers to be open. It's been challenging without a full time Building Maintenance Supervisor.

Employment outside the Nation has been challenging for customers because they can't find housing and finding proper childcare. A total of 26 employees retired from DFS; therefore, the Department is short-staffed at the administration office and at field offices. DFS is continuously coordinating with DPM in advertising positions. Court hearings are still inconsistent with holding hearings to move cases along in the judicial system.

The NTCCF continues to provide Behavioral Helath services to children and families. However, with the pandemic it has been a very difficult and challenging to deliver services. Contacts were made with children and families through telephonic or electronic means. The children that required face to face contacts were visited however, the program followed the CDC guidelines an imposed all requirements to ensure the safety and health of staff. Additionally, some of our children and families did not have the technology to be contacted through electronic means.

It is challenging to promote the Diné Life Way especially when children and families do not understand the Navajo language. However, many families still embrace Traditional services and they do request the support of the Program. Complementing the Traditional services with Western treatment modalities promotes positive, healing and learning for the families. The public live radio forums have been the preferred method of reaching out to the people in the remote area of the Navajo Nation. However, the radio forums are very expensive but are the most convenient and safest method of engaging children and families other than face to face contact.

Transportation to and from appointments for DSR customers is a challenge. Due to pandemic, services delivery has changed as mental and behavioral health agencies redevelop how their services is performed such as telehealth. This has been an ongoing challenge for field offices and families on the Navajo Nation. The local communities do not have a detox center or inpatient treatment center to have local services, but have to refer people off-reservation. The need is great as law enforcement report most police response calls are for public intoxication or substance

abusing individuals. Meeting face to face with clients in the homes is an ongoing challenge, social workers have continued to use PPEs.

The Fund Management Plan for the Child Care Department was outdated; however, it was finalized and submitted to the DSS Executive Office on 9/16/21. DCCD is waiting for a response if the plan is sufficient and when it will be added to the HEHSC meeting agenda. The DCCD's Senior Accountant position became vacant 9/10/2021 and since then, DCCD has been trying to fill this position. Currently, the Senior Accountant role is assigned to the Accountant; however, it's become overwhelming. Subsequently, eleven (11) teams were formed to develop a plan to implement the ARPA Stabilization Fund.

After-hours CPS response workers delegated for assignment while maintaining regular caseload and day-time service hours. Worker fatigue and burnout is a concern. Local law enforcement expectation of after-hours CPS response worker's duty and responsibility while in the field with officers. There is accountability on Offenders when he/she violates a Protection Order, they do not serve jail time. Some local tribal police departments do not have open communication with DFS field offices, which impacts services that are to be provided in communities.

The challenge was a full time Planner/Estimator. DCCD hired a full time Planner/Estimator last month who has the skills and knowledge to follow through with the project. This project should move forward in the new year.

NHA or another outside resource needs to build affordable housing on the Navajo Nation for families who may not meet their eligibility criteria. A homeless shelter is needed on the Navajo Nation to address the homelessness needs in communities. Electricity, fiber lines and water lines need to be provided to families on the Navajo Nation.

# **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
11/16/2021	Virtual	Trauma Informed Care Training on "Trauma & Resilience in Tribal Communities.	43 DFS and DSR employees	3-hour virtual training provided by the Casey Family Program.
11/16/2021	Virtual	Trauma Informed Care Training on "Trauma & Resilience in Tribal Communities.	51 DFS employees	3-hour virtual training provided by the Casey Family Program.
11/18/2021	Virtual	Trauma Informed Care Training on "Trauma & Resilience in Tribal Communities.	18 OED, NTCCF and NFAS employees	3-hour virtual training provided by the Casey Family Program.
11/19/2021	Virtual	Trauma Informed Care Training on "Trauma & Resilience in Tribal Communities.	53 DCCD employees	3-hour virtual training provided by the Casey Family Program.
11/19/2021	Virtual	Trauma Informed Care Training on "Trauma & Resilience in Tribal Communities.	56 DCCD employees	3-hour virtual training provided by the Casey Family Program.
11/19/2021	Virtual	Trauma Informed Care Training on	53 DCCD employees	3-hour virtual training provided by the Casey Family Program.

	1		ı	
		"Trauma &		
		Resilience in		
		Tribal		
		Communities.		
11/30/2021	Virtual	Provide	5	A PowerPoint Presentation was
		education on		provided and presenters
		the LIHEAP		entertained questions. The
		home energy		outcome is to educate community
		assistance,		officials to provide information
		eligibility		and guide the general to
		criteria, benefit		appropriate field offices.
		matrix for 5		
		chapters		
		Delegate Kee		
		Allen Begay, Jr.		
		represents (Blue		
		Gap/Tachee,		
		Cottonwood/Tse		
		lani, Low		
		Mountain, Many		
		Farms, and		
		Nazlini).		
12/29/2021	Twin Arrows	Provide	33	A PowerPoint Presentation was
12/23/2021	Casino	education on	33	provided and presenters
	Casillo	the LIHEAP		entertained questions. The
				outcome is to educate community
		home energy		,
		assistance, eligibility		officials to provide information and guide the general to
		-		
		criteria, benefit		appropriate field offices.
		matrix for 8		
		chapters		
		Delegate Mark		
		Freeland		
		represents		
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		(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock,		
		(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano,		
12/17/2021	ODY; Ft.	(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, and Crownpoint).	550	Santa Stop Holiday Drive Through
12/17/2021	ODY; Ft. Defiance	(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, and Crownpoint).	550	Santa Stop Holiday Drive Through grab-n-go event. NICWAP was
12/17/2021		(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, and Crownpoint).	550	
12/17/2021		(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, and Crownpoint). Holiday Christmas Drive	550	grab-n-go event. NICWAP was
12/17/2021		(Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahadishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, and Crownpoint). Holiday Christmas Drive	550	grab-n-go event. NICWAP was invited to set up and give out

Department Name: DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Date Submitted: December 31, 2021

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Funds	General Funds	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	4,662,758	4,790,638	2,887,585	0.60		
General Funds	Proprietary	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	15,000	15,000	3,939	0.26		
State Funds	State Title XX	07/01/2021-06/30/2022	593,602	593,602	530,423	0.89		
State Funds	State Title XIX - ALTCS	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	3,838,051	4,094,809	2,917,518	0.71		
State Funds	State Title XIX - Developmental Disabilities	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	532,124	532,124	481,884	0.91		
Federal Funds	Title IV-B, SPI, STJ Child Welfare Services	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	444,906	444,906	366,013	0.82		
Federal Funds	Title IV-B, SPII Promoting Safe & Stable Families	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	312,361	312,361	242,631	0.78		
Federal Funds	Family Violence Prevention & Services Act	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	0	0	0	0.00		
Federal Funds	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	8,041,899	8,481,198	5,771,598	0.68		
Federal Funds	Community Service Block Grant	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	2,528,612	3,532,418	3,348,874	0.95		
Federal Funds	Title IVE	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	10,596,619	10,639,877	9,071,261	0.85		
BIA Funds	BIA- P.L. 93-638 Social Services Contract	01/01/2021-12/31/2021	40,302,144	102,352,804	17,007,504	0.17		
I.H.S. Funds	I.H.S. Navajo Trmt Center for Children & Their Families	01/01/2021-12/31/2021	6,238,724	8,701,676	3,081,761	0.35		
Federal Funds	Navajo Child Care Development Fund	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	209,547,417	216,092,756	167,515,656	0.78		
Federal Funds	Navajo Program for Self-Reliance	10/01/2021-09/30/2022	249,668,515	250,304,546	86,650,382	0.35		
BIA Funds	I.C.W.A Navajo Children & Family Services Program	01/01/2021-12/31/2021	1,480,546	6,344,725	2,215,315	0.35		
	Overall Total		538,803,279	617,233,439	302.092.344	0.49		

### Navajo Division of Transportation

## WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

N71 Birdsprings, AZ new construction continues. Project has received \$12.4M for drainage improvements, new paved highway of 6.8 miles, Right of Way fencing, and other miscellaneous items. Navajo DOT is self performing this work.

N11 Mariano Lake new construction continues. Project has received \$9.9M for drainage improvements, new paved highway of 3.7 miles, new bridge, and Right of Way fencing. NECA has been contracted for this work.

N12 Tsaile to Wheatfields new construction continues. Project has received \$32M for drainage improvements, new paved highway of 10.7 miles with Right of Way fencing, two new replacement bridges. NECA has been selected to complete the work.

On November 4, 2021; President Nez approves the transfer of the Navajo Transit System to the Navajo Division of transportation through signing of Resolution CO-59-21.

N251 Tselani/Cottonwood new construction is @ 98% complete. Project received \$11M for roadway corridor earthwork and grading improvements, drainage improvements - culverts installation, placement of 3 inches thick of aggregate base course. Project lineal length is 15.2 miles. Awaiting last remaining items (traffic control signage) to be delivered for installation; currently supplying vendor has a back order waiting list.

#### **CHALLENGES**

NDOT continues to experience challenges with the Navajo Nation and BIA regulatory entities regarding achieving environmental clearnance documents for road and bridge improvement projects, which also includes securing right-of-ways.

Navajo Division of Finance lengthy timeframe of executing reviews and approvals for payment of invoices including Consultant and Contractor invoices.

Human Resource processes continue to cause issues with hiring employees for vacant positions. Additionally, documents have taken much longer to process.

Non-Competitive pay scale which is directly affecting the ability to hire CDL employees and professional positions such as Environmentalists, Archaeologist, etc.

#### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
09/01/2021	Lupton, AZ	N9402 New Bridge Ribbon Cutting	80	Ribbon Cutting event to celebrate the completion of route N9402 new bridge at a cost of \$5M.
09/03/2021	Manuelito Canyon, NM	McKinley County Rd. 5 Ribbon Cutting	40	Ribbon Cutting event to celebrate the completion of new culvert bridge for County Road 5. Cost of project was \$3.2M
11/03/2021	Chinle, AZ	N7/N101/N27 New Highway Completion Event	60	New Paved Highway completion celebration event at a cost of \$33M. Contractor was NECA. Event held in Chinle, AZ.

#### \* FY 2022 1st Quarter \*

#### NDOT - GL Accounts - Financial Status by Fund/Dept

#### As of 12/31/20

Source: Trial Balance Ledger Comparison Reports, NN FMIS/IDE (Rpts Attached)

	NN GENERAL FUND			Budget Le	dge	r (8A)	 ictuals Ledger (AA)	Pu	rchasing Ledger (PA)		
			F	Maintained	by N	NO OMB	Maintainec	by t	IN OoC		
BU #	Description	Co		Orignal Budget		Revised Budget	Actual Expended		Encumbrances	Balance Avail	% Exp.*
121001	EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION	10	\$	1,001,682.00	\$	1,122,450.28	\$ 175,309.33	\$	255,695.01	\$ 691,445.94	38.4%
121002	DEPT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY	10	\$	432,393.00	\$	432,393.00	\$ 25,189.73	\$	4,175.60	\$ 403,027.67	6.8%
121003	DEPT OF AIRPORT MGMT	10	\$	199,777.00	\$	199,177.00	\$ 12,878.62	\$	3,717.25	\$ 182,581.13	8.3%
121004	DEPARTMENT OF ROADS	10	\$	1,068,973.00	\$	1,648,332.69	\$ 10,016.37	\$	602,785.92	\$ 1,035,530.40	37.2%
		Division Totals:	\$	2,702,825.00	\$	3,402,352.97	\$ 223,394.05	\$	866,373.78	\$ 2,312,585.14	22.7%

#### NN ROAD FUND (Revenue Account)

					Accusi Revenue			
BU#	Description	Co/BU#	N/A	N/A	Recorded	N/A	N/A	N/A
506005	NN ROAD FUND REVENUE (FY to Date)	1120			\$ 3,481.57			
	NN ROAD FUND (Expense Accounts)							

BU#	Description	Co/BU#		Orignal Budget		Revised Budget		Actual Expenses		Encumbrances		Balance Avail	% Exp *
506006	EXEC ADMIN (3% ADMIN ACCT)	1120	\$	718,320.00	\$	811,379.97	\$	65,883.77	\$	96,952.33	\$	648,543.87	20.1%
506007	DEPT OF ROADS (17% ROAD MAINT & EQUIP)	1120	\$	3,153,608.00	\$	3,418,118.00	\$	462,627.70	\$	633,257.90	\$	2,322,232.40	32.1%
506008	DEPT OF PRJT MGMT (5% PRELIMNRY STUDIES)	1120	\$	628,461.00	\$	635,191.11	\$	45,324.28	\$	10,250.52	\$	579,616.31	8.7%
506011	DEPT OF AIRPORT MANAGEMENT	1120	\$	71,088.00	\$	76,152.84	\$	0.E.	\$	6,064.84	\$	70,088.00	8.0%
	Divisio	n Totales	¢	4 571 477 00	ć	4 940 941 92	ć	572 925 75	¢	746 525 50	ć	3 620 480 58	17 79/

December End/1st Qtr Benchmark → \* vs. 25%

DIVISION TOTAL (BOTH GF & RF) \$ 7,274,302.00 \$ 8,343,194.89 \$ 797,229.80 \$ 1,612,899.37 \$ 5,933,065.72 19.9%

- \* The Balance Available is determined by subtracting the Actual Expenses and Encumberances Amts from the Revised Budget Amt (aka Trial Balance Ledger Comparison)

  \* Any Balance Available amount at the end of the fiscal year will revert back to its source.

  \* GL Accounts receive allocations from NN Fund sources and are accounted for on the General Ledger of the NN which operates on a fiscal cycle of Oct 1 to Sept 30 each year.
- \*\* The allocation and use of the Road Fund for NDOT GL accounts and NN transportation related projects is governed by a legislary deprived for the Sept. 30 each year.

  \*\* The allocation and use of the Road Fund for NDOT GL accounts and NN transportation related projects is governed by a legislary deprived from Management Plan, as amended.

  \*\* The Revised Budget column, in addition to any supplemental funding, will include amounts carried over from the prior FY to cover any prior FY payments/purchases not Paid in Full by Sept. 30, as well as any unliquidated funds committed to Sub-Contracts using the BU account.

  \*\* BU # 5000005 is used to account for the amount of a revenue received each FY from the NN Fuel Excise Taxes and related fees.

- \* BU# 50000f is only used to account for Fuels Excise Tax received and is not calculated into the overall NDOT's expenditure calculation.

  \* December 31 is 25% thru the NN's FY cycle of Oct -Sept. The comparison of a program's spending to this benchmark is used by our organization as one of the performance factors during the annual budget development process. The goal is to spend 100% of the annual allocation by FY end

### Navajo Gaming Regulatory Office

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1. All four (4) Navajo Casinos continue to be open at 50% occupancy capacity. The Fire Rock and Northern Edge Casinos were opened on March 19, 2021. The Twin Arrows and Flowing Water Casinos were both opened on July 12, 2021. And the Navajo Blue Travel Plaza gaming floor at Twin Arrows, AZ was opened on August 9, 2021. NNGRO continues to monitor COVID-19 safety measures and requirements are in place and being practices by all employees and patrons. AB Health Care Services continued to be on site at all casinos to screen employees and patrons, in addition, administer COVID 19 testing on a biweekly basis for all Casino employees including NNGRO employees, thus far all NNGRO staff have opted to be tested biweekly at the Casinos.
- 2. All outstanding employee performance appraisal forms (EPAFs) for NNGRO employees have been completed, we previously had a total of over 200 outstanding EPAFs since 2015. Due to these outstanding EPAFs, staff were unable to receive step increases. We are awaiting final confirmation from DPM on our status and will start allowing supervisors to request step increases for their staff after completing their annual evaluations. The lack of step increases over the years resulted in low morale and defiance as reported by staff and supervisors.
- 3. Since the execution of the 2021 amended Arizona State-Tribal Gaming Compact was passed on April 15, 2021, several appendices have been revised and approved. There still remains appendices K, N and the Event Wagering. The Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise (NNGE) was granted an Event Wagering license from the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) in September 2021. NNGRO will be working with NNGE to develop the necessary regulations regarding sports wagering at the Navajo Casinos.
- 4. A budget transfer was completed for all NNGRO employees for their FY22 3% general wage adjustment. All staff will receive their GWA difference for 520 hours in the next upcoming pay periods.

#### **CHALLENGES**

A. For the past eight (8) months, the Executive Director position continues to remain vacant. This quarter, the DPM reported three (3) applications being received, however, none of the applicants meet the minimum requirements for the position. Most notable is applicants do not have the work experience in gaming. We will be advertising in newspapers again this upcoming quarter. The Deputy Executive Director continues to be delegated and is performing both duties of the DED and ED.

- B. Although we received a reasonable allocation for FY 2022 in the amount of \$5,021,301 under our Gaming Development Fund budget, we will still be short funded for personnel, all NNGRO staff are funded up to May 6, 2022 at 1248 hours. We hope the remaining balance in our FY 2021 is enough to carry our personnel from May 7, 2022 to September 30, 2022. This information will not be available until March 2022. We received our FY 2021 carryover for our fund management plan budget (proprietary funds) in the amount of \$403,202.70. A completed budget was forward the budget to OMB on December 29, 2021. The carryovers allowed us to budget funds for the Gaming Audit contract for BlueBird CPAs.
- C. Due to vacancies in the NNGRO Administration department since September 2021 of the Executive Director position, the Office Specialist position, the Accounts Maintenance position and the Program and Project Specialist position myself and two (2) administration staff have been completing the duties normally completed by these positions. This includes the doing all the financial/accounting duties and office management duties for the past quarter.

#### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
12/11/2021	Virtual	NABI Gaming Sub-Committee Meeting	15	Discuss Arizona Gaming Compact and Appendices

Department Name: Navajo Nation Gaming Regulatory Office
Date Submitted: 5-Jan-22

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External		Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	<b>Budgeted Positions</b>	Current Budget Vacancies
Special Revenue	Slot Leases	10/01/2021 - 09/30/22	200,000	200,000	49,100	25%	o	0
	Navajo Gaming Regulatory Office	10/01/21 - 09/30/22	5,021,301	5,021,301	3,759,125.82	75%	102	28

### Navajo Nation Department of Justice

## WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1. Navajo Nation files Brief in Opposition in Brackeen ICWA matter. On December 8, 2020, the Navajo Nation Department of Justice (DOJ) filed the Navajo Nation's Brief in Opposition yesterday to the Brackeen and Texas petitions for certiorari pending before the United States Supreme Court. To prepare the briefs, DOJ's Litigation Unit worked with the Supreme Court Clinic of Stanford Law School, which provided free assistance of Supreme Court experts. This is the ongoing challenge to the constitutionality of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) filed by several non-Indian families and three states. Earlier this year, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a 325-page decision concluding certain provisions of ICWA were unconstitutional, but upheld most of the statute. There are presently four cert. petitions pending, filed by the Brackeens, the family who adopted one Navajo child, and who seeks to adopt another, the State of Texas, the United States, and the Cherokee Nation along with three other tribes. The Navajo Nation's position is that this matter should not go before the U.S. Supreme Court, given that court's conservative majority and the uncertainty whether they will hold ICWA to be unconstitutional in total, and filed our opposition, stating the case should not be granted and heard by the Court. DOJ challenged the standing of the Brackeens and other families, as well as the State of Texas, and also asserted that the Fifth Circuit correctly held ICWA does not violate Equal Protection or the Anti-Commandeering doctrine. The Nation's brief is unique in that it asserts ICWA fulfills our two ratified treaties by protecting the integrity of Navajo families. DOJ expects the Court will first review whether to grant cert. on this case on January 7, with an order potentially to be issued January 10. DOJ will keep leadership posted on whether the Court accepts the case. If the Court accepts the case, DOJ will participate as a party to the case to protect ICWA as a constitutional statute.
- 2. Office of the Prosecutor receives FY21 carryover funds. Historically, DOJ's Office of the Prosecutor has been under resourced. During the FY22 budget process, OTP's unmet needs totalled approximately \$463,000. Legislation CS-49-21 provided for the OTP to receive DOJ's FY21 carryover funds from DOJ's three programs: the Office of the Attorney General, Navajo-Hopi Legal Services Program and the Office of the Prosecutor. Last quarter, DOJ was informed that OTP would receive \$321,158 in carryover funding. Among other things, these much needed resources will help OTP hire and retain staff to prosecute crime and address long standing building concerns, some of which are described below.
- 3. U.S. Attorney (District of Arizona) Listening Session. On November 19, 2021, Acting Chief Prosecutor Vernon Jackson participated in a Listening Session hosted by the U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona. Mr. Jackson discussed several of OTP's priorities toward effectively addressing crime in the Nation, requesting federal partners to 1) provide information to the Nation about federally declined cases; 2) share investigative information with the OTP; 3) coordinate information for detainer hearings; and 4) engage consistently

- in Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings. Mr. Jackson's participation set the tone for positive collaboration toward mutual goals and toward his establishing a positive working relationship with the Nation's federal partners.
- 4. 4. Report on COVID-19 Donations. In response to accusations that Executive Branch departments are mishandling COVID-19 Donations, last quarter Attorney General Doreen McPaul initiated a comprehensive Donation Fund report describing the background, the legislative process enacted by the Council to set up the Donation Fund, budget, and expenditures to date. The Report is intended for the Navajo public and also provides information about non-monetary donations. The Donation Report is being finalized and will be made available in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.
- 5. Support Staff Restructure. In May 2021, DOJ requested the Department of Personnel Management (DPM) to reclassify nine (9) of its support staff positions, many of which had never been reclassified since their creation. On October 25, 2021, DPM informed DOJ that the first of reclassifications were completed and effective after the employees completed a background check. DOJ support staff tend to be long serving employees, and as a result of this restructure, these employees' positions now reflect changes in technology, duties, and the department. Employees are also more fairly compensated. While this is a positive development, it took several months to be completed and the effective date is after background checks and the PAFs are completed, which will likely be a few more months.

#### **CHALLENGES**

1. OTP Offices. As described in DOJ's previous quarterly reports, the OTP has been in need of additional office space and repairs to existing buildings. This quarter on October 21, 2021, a building inspection was done by NOSHA and Risk Management which brought to light safety and environmental issues at the Window Rock OTP. As a result, the Window Rock OTP has been temporarily closed due to: 1) building integrity issues which impacts employee safety; (2) lead paint hazards; (3) the presence of mold in several locations; (4) rotting of the building which has allowed rodents to nest in the building; (5) the presence of exposed electrical wiring creating a fire hazard; (6) mice feces and urine spots have been located throughout the premises and (7) a large rodent nest was located inside a stored desk. NOSHA has declared that these safety and environmental deficiencies identified in the Window Rock OTP are in violation of OSHA standards and that they jeopardize the safety of the employees. OTP has relocated employees to DOJ's Butler building while these issues are addressed. Please see photographs attached to this report. We continue to request that leadership include OTP in planning for new justice centers, which to date has only included Judicial Branch.

- 2. **DPM Delays**. This quarter, DOJ continued to experience delays having personnel related work completed by the Department of Personnel Management. Receiving applications, processing PAFs, reclassifying positions, and processing step and merit increases and other personnel related matters takes an inordinate amount of time and significantly affects DOJ's hiring, promoting, and employee morale. This quarter, OAG provided the Personnel Task Force an oral report and a written summary of these challenges.
- 3. OTP Prosecutors. This is an update from the past two (2) quarter reports which described OAG's challenges amending requirements for advertising and filling the Chief Prosecutor position. During the fourth quarter, the Naa'bik'iyati' Committee tabled legislation to amend the statutory requirements of the Chief Prosecutor position to have a work session. The work session did not occur and the legislation lapsed. Last quarter, OAG updated and revised the Chief Prosecutor Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA) to advertise the position, but was subsequently advised by DPM that the Position Classification Questionnaire (PCQ) had to be updated before the JVA could be changed. Concurrently, DOJ learned that DPM was using an incorrect JVA to advertise the position, and had to disqualify a candidate and stop advertising the position. DOJ worked with OTP to update the PCQ and submitted it to DPM on December 6. After DPM approves the updated PCQ, the Chief Prosecutor position will be advertised. It is important to note that the statutory requirements in 2 N.N.C. §§ 1973 remain in the position. An acting Chief Prosecutor has served in this crucial position since April 2019 and OAG looks forward to filling this position on a permanent basis.
- 4. IT Needs and Staffing. As discussed in previous reports, DOJ's technology is outdated and requires a major overhaul, not having any substantial upgrades since at least 2012. A new website and technology to enable storage and remote access to stored documents and material are some of DOJ's challenges. DOJ also requires IT staff to oversee these improvements. DOJ has 1 IT dedicated staff position and since August 2021, this position has been vacant. As currently written, DOJ's Senior Programmer Analyst position requires applicants to have an undergraduate degree. A few applicants lacked the required degree, but are otherwise qualified. To hire an otherwise qualified applicant, OAG amended the PCQ to provide for an equivalency clause to substitute an applicant's work experience for the required education. DOJ initiated this change this quarter and awaits DPM approval.

#### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
10/02/21	Teleconference	Ft. Defiance Agency Council Meeting		Listened and available for any questions for DOJ
10/9/21	Teleconference	Chinle Agency Council Meeting		Listened and available for any questions for DOJ
12/4/21	Teleconference	Eastern Agency Council Meeting		Listened and available for any questions for DOJ
12/11/21	Teleconference	Western Agency Council Meeting		Listened and available for any questions for DOJ
12/18/21	Teleconference	Northern Agency Council Meeting		Listened and available for any questions for DOJ

Department Name: Date Submitted:

DOJ/Office of the Attorney General
First Quarterly Report - October, November, December, 2021

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General/IDC/FY21 GWA Allocation	104001 - Office of Attorney General	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	5,454,518	5,508,528.3	4,474,325.33	18.77%	49	5
External (Grant Account)	K211519 NDOJ-CSS U.S. Treasury American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA)	10/01/21 -12/31/26	25,466,933.00		25,466,933	1%	15	6
General/FY21 GWA Allocation	104002 - Navajo Hopi Legal Service Program	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	329,837	330,957.94	268,996.18	18.72%	3	0
General/FY21 GWA Allocation	104005 - Office of the Prosecutors	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	3,191,199	3,195,735.75	2,744,867.04	14.11%	42	12
	K190801 - OVC /Office of the Prosecutors	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	1,651,634.28		1,195,431	17.00%	7	0
External (Grant Accounts)	K190770 - TIWAHE/Office of the Prosecutors	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	334,864.02		331,196.70	28.00%	5	3
Fixed Cost	N01000 - Fixed Cost Litigation	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	5,000,000.00	\$100.50.90.550.90.90.000	4,597,408.22	95.00%	0	0
		NOTE: This Businesss U	nit N01000 is a continuati	on account since 1993 to p	resent.			
Speical Revenue	N01152 - Water Right Litigation	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	1,229,669.28	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	675,801.85	97.00%	7	1
		NOTE: This Businesss U	nit N01000 is a continuati	on account since 2003 to p	resent.			
Special Revenue	118013 - Navajo-Hopi Partition Land Rental	October 01, 2021 to September 30, 2022	134,000		134,000	0%	0	0

# Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- II. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

Division/Department Name: Division of Natural Resources (DNR)

The DNR is comprised of the following twelve (12) departments:

1. Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation 7. Navajo Land Department

Agriculture Department
 Fish & Wildlife Department
 Navajo Nation Museum

4. Forestry Department 10. Parks & Recreation Department

5. General Land Development Department 11. Department of Resource Enforcement

6. Heritage & Historic Preservation Department 12. Department of Water Resources

#### **MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### **Water Resources Department**

- 1. Encumbered 95 percent of Sihasin funds for Emergency Water Projects through CJY-01-21. Several service agreements with contractors were not encumbered. There is an ongoing request to extend the expenditure deadline.
- 2. Provided \$200 million water projects listing to Office of President Vice President and Navajo Nation Council on August 4, 2021 for consideration for American Rescue Plan funding.
- 3. Submitted proposed five-year budgets for use of Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) for costs of administration under Section 7 of Council Resolution CJY-41-21.
- Inspected and repaired 725 Windmills. 1. Completed rehabilitation of James Irving at Red Lake Chapter area. Completed rehabilitation of well number 10T-251 at Chinle Chapter area. Completed rehabilitation of well number 10T-548 at Chinle Chapter area. Completed rehabilitation of well number 5T-509 at Birdsprings Chapter area. Rehabilitation of Old Sawmill Well is in progress. Completed installation of a 7,800 gallons water storage tank at well number 11K-236 at Round Rock Chapter area. Completed installation of a 7,800 gallons water storage tank at well number 5T-509 at Birdsprings Chapter area. Completed construction, sandblasting, and painting of a 24,000 gallons water storage tank at well number 3T-551 #1 at Cameron Chapter area. Completed installation of two (2) 8,800 gallons water storage tank at well number 5T-537 at Leupp Chapter area. Completed construction, sandblasting, and painting of a 24,000 gallons water storage tank at well number 3T-547 at Coalmine Mesa Chapter area. Completed construction, sandblasting, and painting of a 24,000 gallons water storage tank at well number 3K-328 at Coalmine Mesa Chapter area. Completed construction, sandblasting, and painting of a 24,000 gallons water storage tank at well number 3K-312 at Coalmine Mesa Chapter area. Completed installation of 7,800-gallon storage tank at well number C4 at Tohajiilee Chapter area. Completed nine (9) livestock earthen dams, two (2) in Leupp Chapter area, four (4) in Coppermine Chapter area, and three (3) livestock earthen dams in Tolani Lake Chapter area. Completed construction of 2.5 miles of livestock waterline from well number 5T-537.

5. Performed 128 repairs, inspections and maintenance work on irrigation water systems. Completed additional reinforcement of Many Farms Diversion Dam structure. The budget for \$7,873,959 for San Juan River Irrigation Rehabiliation through the New Mexico Water Rights Settlement from BIA-NRO was submitted to Department of Water Resources on July 26, 2021 for final submittal to OMB. The budget was submitted to OMB for review and approval on August 18, 2021. NDWR-TCOB continues to work toward final designs with contractors for several project features along the Fruitland-Cambridge and Hogback-Cudei irrigation systems. Navajo Nation Museum

# 1. The Navajo Nation Museum successfully hosted the week-long Miss Navajo Nation 2021 Pageant event, which included a sheep butchering competition, contemporary and traditional talents presentation concluding with coronation activities. We accommodated the Office of

Miss Navajo staff, contestants and committee members with various needs and requests with no issues or concerns.

- 2. Planned and safely executed the Navajo Nation Museum Summer Arts Market event, allowing Navajo artisans to showcase and sell their art work outdoors in a safe and controlled environment.
- 3. Museum staff assisted with the Navajo Code Talker Race held on the Museum Trailhead in which nearly 200 participants enjoyed safely and under CDC and HCOC protocols.
- 4. The Museum is working with Darvin D. Descheny on his senior thesis exhibit at the Institute of American Indian Arts of Santa Fe, NM by loaning him items from the Museum Collection for research and presentation purposes.
- 5. We have seen a drastic increase in tourist visitation and due to our engineering and social control measures we have been able to safely accommodate all, and thereby allowing each to enjoy our galleries and Navajo culture.
- 6. The Museum Auditorium was host to the Arizona Redistricting Commission and Conference which plays a significant role in state and local policy making.
- 7. The Museum organized and opened its newest and first gallery (on August 12<sup>th</sup>) since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic period. The exhibit showcases photographs of Navajo Code Talkers, taken by the well-known Kenji Kawano.
- 8. In late September, the Museum will host an outdoor job fair sponsored by the Department of Personnel Management to educate the public on employment opportunities and benefits provided by many Navajo Nation Tribal departments.
- 9. The Office of Budget and management will hold a recognition luncheon for retiring employees in the Museum Auditorium and Café, which will require special accommodations. 10. Provide online support for education through email and telephone to ensure accurate information for health and safety.
- 11. Open to the public at a limited capacity to provide individuals and families with safe, educational visits to the Museum Galleries.

#### **Navajo Land Department**

- 1. Navajo Land Department assisted Division of Natural Resources and OPVP with hauling water to Ramah community for the drought relief effort in July.
- 2. GIS Section/LATF Section helped DNR along with other departments within the division, bag sandbags to help out NDOT.
- 3. Working on agreement with Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office on new office space for Western Agency Land Office.
- 4. Served (1,655) Clients with information for homesite; provided (892) applications and approved (115) homesite leases.
- 5. Electronic review and process for homesite leases and allow those without homesite lease to begin the process and could be added to projects for water and electric.
- 6. GIS Section/NLTDS is still able to help HCOC, IHS, NNPD, FBI, NNCI, NHA, OPVP, and NTUA throughout the pandemic with maps, data as well for the Dine' people.

#### **General Land Development Department**

- 1. Aiding in the collection of \$749,700 for Telecommunication Tower Back Rental in cooperation with Vertical Bridge.
- 2. Aiding in the ability for land withdrawals to be performed for Early Childhood and Senior Centers.

#### **Navajo Forestry Department**

- 1. The Navajo Forestry Department continued to work with the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA), in completing and processing Timber Cutting Permits for short line powerline extension and fiber optic projects on the Navajo Nation. Information was gathered and submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Region for final approval. Invoices were also submitted to NTUA regarding the stumpage payments for the trees that were being removed from these project areas. These projects, once permitted, allowed for construction to begin as part of NTUA's process of serving members of the Navajo Nation with electrical lines. A total of five (5) Timber Cutting Permits were issued for powerline construction activities.
- 2. Continued discussions regarding the forest carbon initiative with other Navajo Nation officials. This initiative will look to create revenue and potential jobs for the Navajo Nation, as well as be used to promote forest management on and for the Navajo forest. An agreement was developed, with the assistance of outside legal counsel, for this project. Information was provided to the Legislative Counsel's office for the development of legislation to approve this initiative. Once legislation is drafted, presentations to the Navajo Nation Council committees will be provided to explain this initiative and its potential benefits to the Navajo Nation.
- 3. Tree thinning operations are currently ongoing south of the Summit on 190 acres of forest lands. Thinning operations was initiated and is approximately 65% complete. Smaller trees have been removed, now harvesting crews are removing the larger sized trees, based off spacing and approved silviculture prescription requirements.

- 4. A contract was issued to a consultant to assist the Department in the development of an environmental document for the *Navajo Forestlands Integrated Resources Management Plan*. The selected contractor is currently working on the process for the development of the *Navajo Forestlands IRMP*. Internal meetings will be conducted to determine the best method for soliciting for public input, in the absence of "in-person" meetings.
- 5. The Department continues its pole-marking program so that interested individuals are able to harvest and construct log cabins or Hogan's for themselves. During this quarter, 18 individuals have had pole-sized trees marked for them. A total of 757 pole-sized trees were marked.
- 6. The Department in coordination, consultation, cooperation and communication with the BIA, Navajo Region, Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management have recommended rescinding the current Stage II Fire Restrictions for the Navajo Nation, cooler temperatures, precipitation received and low occurrences of wildland fires.

#### **Historic Preservation**

- 1. In the 4th Quarter of FY'21, the HHPD Cultural Resources Compliance Section (CRCS) reviewed and issued "archaeological clearance" for approximately 506 undertakings throughout the Navajo Nation. Archaeological reports covered a variety of projects such as homesite/residential leases, powerlines, waterlines, roads, etc. In addition to the Section 106 actions on the Navajo Nation, HHPD also consulted with federal and state agencies, municipalities, and other entities off reservation. So far HHPD responded to an estimated 213 such requests in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.
- 2. The GIS Section continues to be busy improving NNHHPD services: providing IT support as well as upkeep of NihiDatabase as needed. GIS staff provided minor IT assistance to staff and created locational data during the shutdown. Other accomplishments included; continued with plotting and digitizing of mapped sites. (Currently at 10,451+). Additionally, the GIS Section continues to create shapefiles for the GIS Database for all documented archaeological sites. The new and creative processes we are creating using GIS technology will streamline HHPD's processes to create a safe working environment for our staff, and allow for remote access to our records by our contractors.
- 3. HHPD received additional funding under the '638 contract with the Navajo Regional BIA for an additional Archaeologist to review incoming reports for compliance review. The additional staff member will improve our turnaround time for report review and compliance, and also monitor and implement compliance agreements with the BIA and other federal agencies. On September 13, 2021, HHPD hired the new Archaeologist to assist with compliance reviews and implement agreements with the BIA such as the Integrated Weed Management Plan for the Navajo Nation.
- 4. Two vacant Archaeologists positions are funded by BIA Natural Resources to provide cultural resource services for Natural Resource projects; Positions are currently advertised. Fish and Wildlife

- 1. Accomplishment 1 DROUGHT TOUR The Department of Fish and Wildlife-Climate Change Program hosted members of the Navajo Nation Council's Resource and Development Committee on a Navajo Nation-wide tour of the Navajo Nation to gain first hand insight into the impacts of drought on natural resources and the Navajo people. The week-long tour provided valuable insight for RDC members into the impacts and more importantly, the need for active response to addressing the impacts. Several tour stops were focused on highlighting successful land restoration efforts and the need to expand these efforts. A final report on the tour was completed and presented to the RDC for approval. RDC then requested drought relief funding requests from DNR Departments and committed to sponsoring emergency legislation for drought relief. The Department submitted a request to implement land restoration projects throughout the Navajo Nation but the request was not supported at the Office of the President.
- 2. Accomplishment 2 2021 ANNUAL YOUTH HUNT The Department selected a total of 10 Navajo youth to participate in the annual youth hunt, which was downsized from 15 participants due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. All participants successfully completed Hunter Education class and 2 firearm range days. The hunt was postponed to October 2021 due to the COVID 19 Pandemic.
- 3. Accomplishment 3 ANIMAL CONTROL The Animal Control Program completed animal sweeps in Iyanbito, Church Rock, Red Valley, Cove, Shiprock, Fort Defiance, Alamo and St. Michaels during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. There were 135 citations issued for violations to Animal Control laws, and 100 dogs were impounded.
- 4. Accomplishment 4 FUNDING AWARDED The Department was awarded \$2.5 million from BIA to complete an Agricultural Resource Management Plan, \$114,000 for Fish Hatchery maintenance and \$75,000 from U.S. Department of Agriculture for Chronic Wasting Disease monitoring in big game.
- 5. Accomplishment 5 PROJECT REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE The Natural Heritage Program continues to be short staffed and is experiencing difficulty meeting biological review functions after 2 personnel were RIF due to lack of funding earlier in 2021. Existing staff are now completing biological reviews for development projects and home sites, in addition to their normal duties. The Botanist, for example, completed 100 home site biological clearances and biological clearances for 15 fiber optic cable and distribution projects.
- 6. The Navajo Nation Zoo provides the perfect location for families to enjoy the day together and learn about the cultural and biology of their local wildlife. In 2019, the Zoo doubled the size of the popular playground with funding from Navajo Parks and Recreation Department. The Playground was covered with a large shade structure for families to enjoy. The shade will provide relief from the sun and derive health benefits to youth that can play

longer not exposed as much to the sun. The plan is to do another expansion project at the playground and this is estimated at \$20K

#### **Department of Resources Enforcement**

- 1. The payment of Hazard Pay for Non-Exempt employees.
- **2.** Having two staff complete the training to be Background Investigators. DRE can now conduct background investigations on potential applicants.
- **3.** NNPOST Certification provided to Resource Enforcement staff.
- **4.** Meeting with the NM Indian Affairs Committee and developing a working relationship with them to assist in addressing livestock issues on the Navajo Nation.
- **5.** Resource Enforcement has a Recruit who graduated from the Indian Police Academy.
- **6. Chuska Bike Challenge/** Monument Valley, Arizona Sheriff's Association Meeting: Many organizations request the assistance of Resource Enforcement in conducting their events. They request the assistance of staff who have been employed with the Department for a number of years to assist them in their planning for the safety of the public.
- 1. Chuska Bike Challenge: On September 18, 2021, Ranger Sgt. Billy, Ranger Begaye and Ranger Lapahie assisted the Navajo YES Program in providing bike route security in Red Valley, north of Buffalo Pass. Approximately 75 mountain bike riders participated in a 20 mile course through the northern part of the Chuska Mountain range. Bike riders who participated in this event had a choice in a timed race or just to enjoy the mountain ride. Participants were from local BIA Boarding Schools, local native bike riders, and non-native from amateurs to professional mountain bike riders. One non-native mountain bike rider participated in the Olympics in the race course. This event was a success with no incident.
- 2. Local Well Water Damage: Eastern District Rangers responded to two Well Water Damage complaints. The first was on June 22, 2021 Ranger Begaye responded to Nageezi, New Mexico on a local well water contamination reported by the Navajo EPA. One of the Local livestock owner's noticed oil in the windmill, into the storage tank and water troughs. When Ranger Begaye arrived on scene, he reported a 7 foot water storage tank was almost empty with only 6 inches of water with lots of algae. The storage tank was drained and refilled and no oil was present in the water. The nearest residence was about 1.5 miles west in a secluded area and therefore no one had seen any suspicious vehicle around the well. This case was referred to Water Resources for further evaluation on the well. The second was on July 1, 2021 Ranger Lapahie responded to a tampering of a local well water at milepost 9 on Highway 64 west of Shiprock. A local livestock owner reported someone stuffed plastic grocery bags inside the pipes causing blockage to the water. Local livestock owners reported a person of interest and Ranger Lapahie attempted to locate this person several times with no success.
- **3. Predator Damage:** District 2 Ranger responded to six Predator Damage calls. The first call was on July 22, 2021, Ranger Begaye responded to Chilchiltah to meet with a goat owner. The goat owner reported that her neighbor's dog attacked and killed their goat. When Ranger

Begaye contact the dog owner, the dog owner told him that a Crownpoint Police Officer came by earlier and took the report and the owner had the dogs disposed of right after the attack. The second call was on July 24, 2021 in Lake Valley, New Mexico where dogs attacked and killed 6 sheep. Ranger Begaye met with the sheep owner and was informed that the dogs belong to their daughter who resides behind their residence and requested the dogs be removed from the residence. This case was referred to Animal Control to pick up the dogs. The third call was received on July 25, 2021 from the Shiprock Police Department about 8 dogs attacked and killed several goats on fifth Lane. Ranger Lapahie responded to fifth Lane and could not locate the described residence and made several attempts to call the goat owner. No further action was taken. The fourth call was received on August 21, 2021, from Crownpoint Police Department about a person reporting their sheep was attacked and killed by dogs and the dog owner is a nonnative. Ranger Begaye responded to Thoreau, New Mexico to locate the dogs and its owner, but the dog owner was not home and the dogs were not located at the home. The fifth call was on August 25, 2021 near Salt Creek where a pig was attacked by 3 dogs and 2 puppies. Again Ranger Lapahie responded, searched the area for a dead pig and could not locate any carcass in the area. Ranger Lapahie also made an attempt to contact the reporting person with no success. The sixth call was on September 21, 2021 in Tohatchi, NM about dogs attacking and killing a yearling heifer. Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to this call and met with the cattle owner and the local Grazing Official. The cattle owner did not see the dogs attacking and killing his heifer. When the cattle owner found his dead heifer, he saw 20 dogs near the carcass feeding on the dead heifer and says he gathers all his cattle every evening. Ranger Sgt. Billy contacted the dog owners and they defended their dogs by saying, "Did the livestock owner see my dogs attacking and killing their cattle." This case is referred to Animal Control to pick up the dogs.

- 4. **Animal Cruelty:** On July 16, 2021 Ranger Lapahie responded to Beclabito, AZ about a horse that was too weak to stand on its own in an open field. Ranger Lapahie called the Reporting Person and was told the horse is no longer in the area. Ranger Lapahie informed the Reporting Person to contact the Beclabito Grazing Official to check the area in hopes to locate the weak horse. Another call was on August 31, 2021, Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to Twin Lakes, NM about a malnourished horse in a fence feel. Ranger Sgt. Billy contact the horse owner and was told that the horse was well fed and watered every day and was recently dewormed. The horse owner is taking proper care of his horse and therefore no further action was taken.
- **5. COVID-19** Continue to provide Informational literature to the public on the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Department of Resource Enforcement Rangers are interacting with the Navajo Nation public on a daily basis regarding the public's health and well-being associated with the corona virus pandemic, handouts are distributed as well as verbal instructions. The primary focus is on preventing and containing the spread of the virus. More out of state travelers are traveling the highways across the Navajo Nation and stopping at various tourist sites.

#### **Parks and Recreation Department**

- 1. Small business assistance The reopening of tribal parks on July 8, 2021 allowed tour operators and arts/crafts vendors to begin operations again to generate income and provide employment for their workers.
- 2. Contracts The work to be completed include the Four Corners Monument powerline with NTUA, the office building setup with water and power by BITCO and the access road improvement for Lower Antelope Canyon. The contracts have been processed through the 164.
- 1. Excellent services provided at Asaayi Lake with compliments from users.
- 2. Lake Powell Tribal Park has been and continuing to serve the high risk and most in need in the community with donations from different sources.

#### **AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Reauthorization of the Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Fee collection continues to move forward through Congress. The U.S. Senate passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill on August 10. This included the extension of the AML fee collection, at a reduced rate for 13 years. This Bill is pending a House of Representative vote, which is expected to be on September 27th, 2021.
- 2. Development on the Navajo AML Geographic Information System (GIS) and Interactive Website have been moving along. Navajo AML was able to secure another year of funding for the enhancement of our GIS work through the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, from July 2021 to June 2022.
- 3. Canyon Vista AML Project (Coalmine, Chilchinbeto, Burnham): The Archaeological and Biological Survey and Report procurement for professional service contract is going through 164 Review Process. Navajo AML will be obtaining Chapter Supporting Resolutions from the three chapters. Data gathering for Chilchinbeto and Burnham are nearly complete; however, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, the Coalmine project site is scheduled for a later time.
- 4. There has been severe drought this past winter to early summer, until July 2021 when we received numerous high precipitation events. Since 2008, NAMLRD has designed and constructed twenty-one (21) sediment retention structures (e.g., Beclabito, Sanostee, Burnham, White Rock, Newcomb, Coyote Canyon, Standing Rock, and Nahodishgish) at thirteen (13) NAMLRD coal project areas. In coordination with Navajo Water Department, NAMLRD has conducted inspections of all sediment retention structures from July 06, 2021 through Aug. 06, 2021. All structures are functioning as designed and is holding water. This is impressive results especially after a severe drought impact to our lands.
- 5. NAMLRD has an opportunity to create a cooperative agreement with Department of Energy (DOE) and Bureau of Land Management to work on Defense-Related Uranium Mines (DRUM) program sites within Navajo Nation. This will require the support from the Navajo Nation President and Vice President, and the Division of Natural Resources. The benefits will be to assist the Navajo economy and Navajo employees.

- 1. NAMLRD along with DOE-LM conducted a door-to-door community outreach in Halchita, UT. This was to provide updates to families at their home on the current state of the Mexican Hat UMTRA Disposal cell.
- 2. NAMLRD project areas containing sediment retention structures provided livestock with water by retaining surface water runoff from the monsoon precipitation. If not for these sediment retention structure, all the surface water run-off would have been lost.
- 3. NAMLRD has been conducting mine site visits to ensure Abandoned Uranium Mine (AUM) sites, access roads, and one bridge are safe and stable. During the COVID19 Pandemic, U.S. EPA R-9 is not able to travel into Navajo Nation to continue work on AUM sites. NAMLRD conducted these inspections to ensure Navajo families are safe from hazards and toxic dangers of these AUM sites.

#### **CHALLENGES**

#### **Water Resources Department**

- 1. Contractors continue to wait for payment of invoices due to shortage of staffing at Office of Controller.
- 2. Program continues to struggle with delays in 164 review of contracts due to staffing shortages at various programs.

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. Our security monitoring system needs a complete upgrade as it is well over 10 years old with most features and components now being obsolete. Budgeting for a much-needed but costly overhaul has been extremely difficult with limited operational funding. The security of the public and building occupants, along with the culturally sensitive and valuable items in our collections are our highest priority. The estimated amount to fully update the security system is about \$50,000, which is a huge amount for an already stringent budget.
- 2. Though we have seen an increase in visitor numbers and meetings held here (facility rentals) COVID restrictions still hinder the profits of space rental and profits in our Gift shop due to visitor numbers being much lower than usual (pre-COVID-19).

#### **Navajo Land Department**

- 1. Still a very major challenge is the process of making payments through NNOOC, accounts payable, and purchasing. We seem to get different opinions on how to make payments from different individuals instead of having one solution that is a standard procedure. Also, the lack of communication, no answering of phones, leaving messages with no responses, leaving emails with no responses, rude customer service as well. Any solutions to these issues would help the section, department, division, Navajo Nation government overall.
- 2. With the Covid-19 Pandemic the department safety precautions were in place in order to open the office back to the public. All duties and responsibility are handled electrically and

automated All contacts with the public, clients and entities are handle with phone, emails and text.

3. Funding for the Navajo Nation System is delinquent one year. In order to get current, two (2) years of payment needs to be made, which the NLD programs do not have. GIS Section/NLTDS is set back when the system isn't paid for and no support is available until payment had been made. We do need more funding set aside for the Navajo Nation System which is the future for the Navajo Nation.

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. Telecommunication Regulations are still pending with NNTRC

#### **Navajo Forestry Department**

- 1. The frequent number of permits that were being requested and the timelines that these projects were to be permitted for. At the request of the BIA, Navajo Region, permits that are developed are required to be submitted through the Navajo Nation OMB, Contracts and Grants Section. Due to the high frequency of permits going through this process, approval by the BIA and project implementation is often delayed.
- 2. With some Navajo Nation government operations still in partial closure or restricted processes being implemented, communicating with other Navajo Nation offices has become a challenge, as some staff are still teleworking. This hindered acceptance and review of documents, after completion of the 164 Review and for Navajo Nation Council consideration.
- 3. Challenges with the forest thinning activity have been disposing the slash created from the harvested trees within the project area. So much slash is created, that it is actually slowing progress in harvesting trees. In addition, other projects come up that need some level of attention and this is pulling the thinning crew away from the thinning project. Currently, COVID-19 requirements are being followed, for the safety of the staff. Weather and road conditions caused a slight challenge, earlier in the quarter, as did the adherence to the federal migratory bird breeding season, as harvesting was halted until August 15, 2021.
- 4. With some departments still working with altered work schedules, communicating with other Navajo Nation offices has become challenging, as most staff are still teleworking. This continues to slow procurement and other needed approval processes.

#### **Historic Preservation Department**

1. HHPD is continously working to improve our 30-day turnaround time in reviewing incoming archaeological reports. Occasionally, reports submitted to HHPD are not up to professional report standards and are returned to the sponsors or their contractors for revisions, which prolongs the review process. After NNHHPD's review, the compliance forms and archaeological reports for rights-of-ways, or leases are submitted to the BIA/NRO for their concurrence. Their review usually takes up 30-days or less. HHPD currently employs three archaeologists who review incoming reports.

- 2. There is the issue (slow progress at DPM) not advertising 2 vacant Archaeologist positions for BIA Natural Resources projects. There appears to be a hold up at DPM since July 2021.
- 3. HHPD HMS Shiprock Office located at Dine' College will be closing its office on September 30, 2021 due to lack of personnel, the current Archaeologist/Program Manager will be retiring on September 30, 2021 and the Archaeologist has found a new job with Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation. All future personnel will work from the Window Rock office. Also, the current MOA with Dine' College expires on December 31, 2021.

#### Fish and Wildlife

- 1. Challenge 1 The Natural Heritage Program lost 2 permanent, full-time positions during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter due to funding shortfalls in the NHP 638 Contract. A remedy was found to fund the 2 positions using an Agriculture Infrastructure Fund allocation awarded to the Department in 2018 but was never used. This allocation was approved by the Resources and Development Committee.
- 2. Challenge 2 Wildlife Biologist completed the first biological review for reissuing a grazing permit in almost 3 years and the Biological Resource Clearance Form (BRCF) recommended a large reduction in Sheep Units Year Long (SUYL). The recommended reduction in sheep units was based on the biological assessment, livestock tally counts, vegetation studies and the conservation plan submitted by BIA. Upon submitting the completed BRCF to BIA, NNDFW was advised a permit could not be issued with a SUYL based on a quantitative assessment of forage availability found within the individual Conservation Plan, using data collected within their District Vegetation Study. The Navajo Nation Reservation Grazing Handbook and Livestock Laws limits the reduction to a 10 minimum SUYL. However, many of the grazing areas have poor range conditions (i.e., insufficient forage) and cannot accommodate the recommended SUYL recommended by BIA. In spite of the reduction limit in the Grazing Handbook and Livestock Law, the Department is standing by its reduction recommendations but will incorporate supplemental feeding considerations into the biological reviews.
- 3. Challenge 3 P.L. 93-638 Contract funding levels are severely inadequate to meet all obligations specified under the Scope of Work. The Department is requesting to meet with BIA to discuss the issue.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. Due to department's limited manpower it is impossible to keep a twenty-four hour seven days a week watch over the Nation's 27,000 square miles.
- 2. It was determined that the Chapter's Burial Policy was a part of the Chapter's Land Use Management Plan, which has yet to be *officially* approved and given the Navajo Nation Land

Department's Burial Policy has yet to be codified it leaves no option for prosecution or enforcement.

- 3. The need for law enforcement and security presence is needed daily for a project like the Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP), but with nine (9) commissioned Rangers. It makes it extremely difficult to fulfill this request. A major concern of Resource Enforcement is during the construction of these projects that are opposed be residents. The Resource and Development Committee is looking into waiving grazing permittee consent. Enforcement does not have the manpower and neither does the Navajo Police to provide law enforcement presence at each construction site should an individual or group decide to protest. Recommendations have been made to the Department of Water Resources to have construction projects include security services in their budgets to ensure equipment, supplies and the safety of the workers at construction sites. However, with the incident that occurred in White Rock, NM, security companies have limited enforcement authority and a commissioned peace officer would still need to respond to this type of incident. At the time of the incident there was only one Ranger Sergeant on site who was overseeing both construction sites in Little Water, NM and also White Rock, NM. Navajo Police Crownpoint District were called and Resource Enforcement also sent one Ranger and another Ranger Sergeant to provide backup to the Ranger Sergeant on scene. The response time was at least an hour as they were in Window Rock, AZ and Blackhat, NM at the time the incident occurred.
- **4.** Notice of a request for assistance for these type of operations come at the very last minute. The Department of Resource Enforcement currently has nine (9) commissioned Rangers. It makes it extremely difficult to fulfill a request when personnel are already busy with other assignments and tasks or on their regular day off.
- 5. It is difficult to respond to calls for service when livestock theft or missing livestock are not reported to Central Dispatch. We receive complaints Rangers are not following up on requests for assistance, however if the reports are not called into Central Dispatch we have no record of the request for service. Once a complaint is reported to Central Dispatch it can then be tracked and a Ranger can be dispatched to the complainant's location. If individuals are sending requests for service to grazing officials, via text or email the requests are not being tracked. There also is a delay in the response time. The public needs to be educated to call into DNR Central Dispatch at 928-871-6491 or 871-7041.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation Department**

1. Even though tribal parks have been reopened the visitation has not returned to prepandemic level. This is resulting in minimal revenue being generated.

- 2. There is great amount of bureaucracy in trying to process contracts and agreements which is causing some vendors and suppliers to delay work and having to procure additional insurance which some are unwilling or unable to do.
- 3. A majority of visitors to tribal parks do not wear face coverings/masks as required by tribal law. Some question why the Navajo Nation continue to require masks that states do not and become belligerent with staff.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Navajo Nation 164 review process for grants, contracts and administrative documents is a hindrance to our department activities/productivity. The timeliness for approval of documents at the departments is taking longer than it should be (more than a month).
- 2. A lack of Navajo consultants to perform our Environmental surveys, such as Archaeology and Biological. This has made it difficult to plan ahead on our projects.
- 3. Essential staff under travel restrictions, and the closure of local agencies due to COVID-19.
- 4. Lack of collaboration and communication between departments of the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop partnerships on projects. NAMLRD reached out to other departments on projects but we have received limited feedback or participation.

#### **Water Resources Department**

Project #1: Submitted Drinking Water Transmission and Distribution Projects subject to CJY-41-21 - Section 5 for UUFB and Sihasin Reimbursements in the amount of \$31,556,346.22. Submitted Drinking Water Source Projects subject to CJY-41-21 - Section 5 for UUFB and Sihasin Reimbursements in the amount of \$4,193,774.54. Submitted Drinking Water Treatment - Smith Lake subject to CJY-41-21 - Section 5 for UUFB and Sihasin Reimbursements in the amount of \$405,000.00.

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

Project #1: Maintaining a safe environment for the public and staff members during the phased re-opening the past few months. It is important to encourage all occupants of the Museum to remain vigilant during this re-opening.

Project #2: The Museum continues to work towards the completion of our IMLS grant to create the Coyote Stories Drive-In project.

#### **Navajo Land Department**

Project #1: The Gallup Land Partners appraisal has been completed by the seller's appraiser, Collier International Valuations.

Project #2: The Chaves Ranch appraisal was completed by Gipson Investment, LLC. September 20, 2021.

#### **General Land Development Department**

Project #1: Implementation of the One Stop Shop to aid in FRF Projects

**Historic Preservation Department** 

Project #1: No assignments.

#### **Fish and Wildlife Department**

Project #1 – Division of Community Development Project Review Coordination – The following is a status report on the action items established to address the biological review backlog for projects at the Division of Community Development:

1. The Natural Heritage Program submitted a funding proposal to expand the Environmental Review function. The proposal, which totaled \$205,415, and was to be incorporated into the Division of Community Development's \$7 million funding package for Sihasin funding.

Project #2 – Biological Review/Compliance for NTUA's Light up Navajo Projects – NTUA cancelled the Light up Navajo initiative due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. However, approximately 24 Biological Resource Compliance Forms were completed prior to NTUA cancelling the initiative.

#### **Department of Parks and Recreation**

Project #1: The department was allocated \$828,637.00 from the CARES fund for economic assistance to small businesses impacted by the pandemic. Of this amount, the department expended approximately \$354,372.99 leaving a balance reverted to Hardship Fund of \$474,264 subject to final audit. The reallocation of the funds has been completed as well as the expenditures of the allocated funds. There have been no continued efforts using CARES funds but the department continues to provide assistance to families with groceries, water and hay with its own funds.

Update: The project has been discontinued due to close out of CARES funding. Project #2: The department assisted in distribution and collection of Hardship Fund applications at the tribal parks and submitted to Controller's Office. Assistance was also provided making available wifi so applicants could file electronically. The acceptance and processing of hardship applications has been completed. The project has ended.

Update: The project has been discontinued due to close out of CARES funding.

#### **Department of AML Reclamation**

Project #1: The Director of the Department of Energy is requesting to meet with the Navajo Nation President and Vice President to talk about the tribal-federal consultation.

Project #2: Navajo Nation President and Vice President's letter of support for the Reauthorization of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977 was sent to; the Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and House Committee on Natural Resources.

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

1. COVID-19 made the Museum staff and others think of different and safe ways to provide services for the communities of the Navajo Nation.

2. Limited occupancy does prohibit families and large groups to safely enjoy and learn at the Navajo Nation Museum

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. Digitizing the long chronology of historical records from many different physical sources.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. Chuska Bike Challenge: Due to the pandemic restriction across the Navajo Nation has canceled a lot of recreational events. The Navajo YES Program had carefully plan this event to ensure all Covid-19 protocols were met.
- 2. **Local Well Water Damage:** Some of the challenges are not having enough Rangers to check every wells including windmills, storage tanks, troughs and spring structures. However Rangers do check the structures while patrolling out in remote areas. Another challenge is having the local Grazing Official or Land Board Member checking the structures.
- 3. **Predator Damage:** The most challenging part of this investigation is that most people value their dogs, even if their dogs are chizii and in poor condition and some take their dogs elsewhere. Some other challenges to predator damages is dog owners often do not claim their dog(s). Sometimes they would say they see the dog around but do not know who owns it or it's a stray dog.
- **6. Animal Cruelty:** The challenging part about investigating cruelty to animals is majority of the Navajo Nation is open range and livestock do not graze in just one area that makes it hard to locate these lies stop.
- 7. Dogs killing livestock: The most challenging part of dogs killing livestock is the kinship and neighbors of the livestock owners and dog owners. In most incidents, the livestock owner does not want to pursue any kind of legal court actions or repayment of the killed livestock. This is because the livestock and dog owners are closely related. In most instances, the livestock owners do not want to cause any problems within their family. In the incidents, with the neighbors the livestock owners are afraid of retaliation by the neighboring family. Another challenge is, the response time by the Animal Control Officer. This often gives the dog owner enough time to hide the alleged dogs.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

- 1. Limited staff resulting in services not available seven days a week.
- 2. Continuing requirement to comply with health guidelines.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. DOE needs to a direct funding agreement with NAMLRD as a program that provides technical assistance to DOE, and the Navajo Nation regarding the four UMTRA sites.
- 2. Partnerships need to be developed within DNR to develop surface water management projects. This would result in canyon restorations, saving topsoil, increasing vegetation, eliminating invasive species, saving surface waters and ultimately recharging aquafers on Navajo.
- 3. Navajo EPA and Navajo AMLR need to meet and draft a work plan to continue maintenance and surveillance activities at AUM sites that are not funded by other agencies, or responsible parties of AUMs. This is an urgent need to protect the health and safety of families living near the AUM sites. Navajo EPA needs to complete the MOA or MOU initiated by NAMLRD. NAMLRD has developed a fund management plan to receive funds from Hazards Substance Fund available through Navajo EPA.

#### A. Behavioral and Mental Health

### Q1. What are some accomplishments? General Land Development Department

1. Assisted in conflict resolution instances between development applicants and land use permit holders.

#### Fish and Wildlife

1. The Navajo Nation Zoo provides the perfect location for the Navajo Nation Courts to send people to perform court-mandated community service hours. Many of these people are experiencing behavioral and mental issues leading to petty crimes. We have found that community service workers enjoy working at the Zoo and benefit from working with animals. We hope to allow for more community service workers after the COVID emergency is over.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. Our department has not had any extensive involvement in the behavioral and mental health aspect of community members so no accomplishment is cited.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. NAMLRD staff are fully vaccinated and continue to work under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Navajo Nation Indian Health Service, and NAMLRD's COVID-19 Protocols.
- 2. Navajo people see NAMLRD staff working at AML and AUM sites, which gives them a sense of being safe and not abandoned.
- 3. Navajo families living near NAMLRD project areas have been hauling water during the severe drought conditions. Nonetheless, once monsoon precipitation occurred, numerous

NAMLRD sediment retention structures are retaining surface water for livestock and wildlife. The structures benefit Navajo families in having access to water and a sense of security.

#### Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority?

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. There is not an up-to-date archive of land and grazing permit holders

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

1. There are repeated calls from residents who have possible mental disabilities and they repeatedly call for assistance and when the Ranger arrives the residence appears abandoned or they are not present. Then another call for service is requested for a similar complaint.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Having to live with the pandemic may be causing mental stress on employees.
- 2. Need additional funding to NAMLRD by Navajo Nation (Navajo EPA) to continue maintenance and monitoring Navajo AUM sites. This will benefit the safety of the Navajo people.
- 3. Navajo Nation programs, departments, and entities need to prioritize surface water management in order to withstand the negative impacts of drought conditions and climate change.

#### C. Housing

#### Q1. What are some accomplishments?

#### **Navajo Land Department**

- 1. NLD assisted lenders with completing six (4) Land Status and Jurisdiction forms. A form that is required by HUD for a Section 184 home loans.
- 2. NLD Land Acquisition/Title Section Program reviewed three (3) mortgage documents before sending them for signature, notary, approval and BIA for recording.

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. Worked on NHA Masterlease development.

#### **Forestry Department**

- 1. The Department marked 757 pole-sized trees for 18 individuals that are able to construct either a Hogan or log cabins for their use.
- 2. Issued 5 timber cutting permits for the removal of trees within NTUA project boundaries across the Navajo Nation, to allow for home to be served electrical services.

#### **Historic Preservation Department**

1. We have reviewed 506 cultural resources inventories (CRI) including numerous Cultural Resources Compliance Forms (CRCF) or Cultural Resources Inventory Determinations forms

(CRID) for Homesite and Residential Leases (on Individual Indian Allotments). The CRCFs for Residential Leases (on Individual Indian Allotements) require BIA Concurrence. In this 4th Quarter, CRI reviews for homesites comprised approximately 70% of all the reviews HHPD has conducted, and our turn-around time is less than 30 days.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. NAMLRD continuously provides technical assistance by developing maps of mines to assist Navajo families that are applying for home site leases. The technical assistance and maps received by Navajo families and consultants are used to complete the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 compliance.
- 2. NAMLRD is currently working with U.S. EPA R-9 to repair a waste water system at the Cove Transfer Station (Uranium Mine Waste Site). The waste water system was damaged during a removal action conducted by U.S. EPA R-9 and contractors.

### Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority? Navajo Land Department

1. Selling leasehold interests is not something new but there needs to be a guidance, procedures and/or policy to achieve them.

#### **General Land Development Department**

Data Record research needed to find cited clearances for NHA Master Leases

#### **Forestry Department**

- 1. Ensuring that the trees are harvested in a timely manner and ensuring that both staff and customers practice CDC/Navajo Nation guidelines, regarding masks and social distancing.
- 2. Receiving the approved permits back from the BIA, Navajo Regional Office in a timely manner so that projects can be implemented.

#### **Historic Preservation Department**

1. Reviews of CRIs are pretty standard and we can get them out fairly quickly. The only issue would be returning reports back to the sponsor and their contractor for missing information or if the reports do not meet our professional standards.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Navajo EPA Superfund could help in providing technical assistance to families completing NEPA compliance for home site lease.
- 2. The project stalled on the waste water repair work at Cove Transfer Station due to lack of NNEPA permits and professional engineer's stamp designs.

#### D. Economic Development/Tourism

Q1. What are some accomplishments? Minerals Department

- 1. The Minerals Department is negotiating Operating Agreements for exploration and production of oil, gas, and helium with four (4) companies: Navajo Nation Oil & Gas Company; EOG Resources Inc.; Helios Resource Group; and Vanry. Negotiations are ongoing and promising for 3 of the 4 companies. The fourth company appears to have financial difficulties because the original company that approached the Minerals Department dissolved and they came back with a new name and different members. The Minerals Department will continue to perform due diligence when screening companies and negotiating consideration for royalties, scholarship payments, bonus payments, delay payments, and rental fees.
- 2. The Minerals Department began discussions with Navajo Transitional Energy Company (NTEC) regarding its purchase of oil and gas company, Tacitus LLC. NTEC requested seismic data for the Tocito Dome properties operated by Tacitius LLC. The seismic data is owned by the Navajo Nation, however since the data is confidential between the current operator and the Minerals Department, we obtained permission from Tacitus LLC because we have not seen the purchase/sale agreement between the two companies. Tacitus provided approval to share the data with NTEC so the Minerals Department is in the process of providing the data to NTEC. This likely will begin discussions with NTEC on federal and Navajo Nation payment and reporting requirements for oil, gas, and helium production, sales, and royalties, and other lease-level obligations. [Insert photo titled "SEISMIC DATA REQUEST"]

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. Hosting outdoor mini art markets to allow artisans to showcase and sell their work in a safe and controlled environment while encouraging "Buy Local, Buy Navajo".
- 2. As partners with the organization Harvest Host, the museum has been able to not only welcome off reservation travelers but to also educate them on the safety protocols and mandates observed on the Navajo Nation.

#### **General Land Development Department**

- 1. Aided in helping developers get Land Withdrawals Designated to them.
- 2. Routed 164 Reviews for Rights of Way and Tribal Authorization Accesses **Historic Preservation Department**

# 1. NNHHPD has been participating in the discussions to create a "One-Stop Shop" for environmental regulatory review for development projects across the Navajo Nation. We provided comments on the proposed Plan of Operation and structure of the office.

#### Fish and Wildlife

1. **Accomplishment 1** - The Navajo Nation Zoo provides the perfect location for families from outside the Navajo Nation to enjoy the day together and learn about the cultural and biology of the local Southwest wildlife. The Zoo Staff have made many improvements to the

Zoo in the last decade, many of which have modernized the Zoo and provide for a better visitor experience.

2. **Accomplishment 2** - The Zoo had begun in FY-19 advertising specifically to bring more visitors from outside the Navajo Nation, including 1) shared billboard with the Museum along I-40; 2) brochure distribution service for Gallup and I-40 tourist locations; and 3) modern mobile-friendly website to attract tourist. We had been experiencing a jump in visitors from outside the Navajo Nation until the COVID emergency closed our doors.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. Monument Valley, Arizona Sheriff's Association Meeting DRE and Navajo County Sheriff's offce accommodated the Arizona Sheriff's Association Meeting for Fiscal Year 2021 by providing an escort during their trail ride along the drive into Monument Valley and secruing a safe area for their meeting. As well as providing pens for the horses on September 6, 2021.
- 2. DRE continues to provide patrols and response to calls for services from the tribal parks. On September 12, 2021 DRE was dispatched to Monument Valley Park due to a female visitor having health problems associated with the weather. On my arrival she had already left the area. Since the park is open to the public we are receiving more assistance calls
- 3. National Parks and Navajo Parks closures: Central District Rangers have been providing information to tourists on the closures of National Parks on the Navajo Nation; due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Also, providing information on open recreational areas on the Navajo Nation; such as fishing lakes and camping areas and fire restrictions.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

- 1. Design and engineering of an access road and parking lot for Lower Antelope Canyon has been started with an engineering consultant. This will result in a safer and easier access for vehicles, especially long wheel base vehicles like buses and RVs.
- 2. The department is planning to develop a parking lot and campground at Marble Canyon near Navajo Bridge. This will benefit Navajo arts and crafts vendors near the site.
- 3. Miss Navajo Nation has visited the tribal parks to develop promotional material to increase interest and visitation to the parks.
- 4. Tribal parks have reopened and started generating revenues and providing services to visiting public.
- 5. Completion of visitor center renovation at Lake Powell Tribal Park and will now continue with interior exhibits and displays and offices for staff.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. The Kayenta Township Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) project was kicked off on July 08, 2021. Kayenta Township is currently working on securing a construction company for the labor. NAMLRD will work with Kayenta Township to get this project under construction by spring of 2022.
- 2. Navajo AML continues to work on the FY'19 AMLER project involving the Shonto Hotel. Working on the Environmental Clearances and developing an Environmental Assessment (EA) with the Chapter is the delay.

#### Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority?

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. Many out of state tourists have been visiting the building but to ensure their health and the health of our staff the Museum has had to implement certain safety measures at our discretion.
- 2. Accommodating travelers time to spend tour our Museum at their leisure while allowing Navajos to share in the enjoyment and education.

#### **General Land Development Department**

- 1. They are having issues attaining the needed clearances from the overwhelmed Fish and Wildlife and Historic and Heritage Preservation offices.
- 2. Environmental Clearances are held up at Fish and Wildlife and Historic and Heritage Preservation Offices.

#### **Historic Preservation Department**

1. The cultural resources review for projects maybe hindered by the complicated compliance review process. Projects may require mitigative measures (testing, excavations, etc.) that may delay projects.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. Lack of communication and requesting assistance.
- 2. Lack of communication, failing to cancel the request for medical assistance.
- 3. National Parks: The challenging part of the National Parks closures is explaining the closure of the parks to tourists. There are barriers and locked gates preventing tourist access to the parks. The tourists would park their vehicle at the barriers or locked gates and walk into the parks. The Ranger would have to walk into the park and escort them out of the park. The tourist would become argumentative with the Ranger, explaining they have traveled long distances or from other countries to see the sites and scenery on the parks.
- 4. Lack of Parks and Recreation employees, Park personnel have all left the parks unprotected and unmanned pushing their responsibilities' onto DRE when we have other duties to respond to. Parks and Recreation Rangers need to take the lead in activities occurring in the

Tribal Parks. They are pushing their responsibilities onto DRE. When DRE Rangers respond to calls in the Parks they are informed staff have not seen the Park Rangers in some time.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

- 1. The restriction against meetings has required the consultant and staff to discuss the projects online and is not conducive to in depth discussion of the issues and to site visits.
- 2. The procurement process, section 164 process and the processing of payments from OOC all need to be overhauled. Includes updating of policies and procedures and maybe tribal laws.
- 3. Lack of staff in OOC, OMB to handle requests is too time-consuming.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Working on the Abandoned Mine Lands Economic Recovery (AMLER) projects are challenging due to the fact that most of the projects are not construction ready. Alternative funding for Environmental Clearances and A&E designs is needed to get projects construction ready.
- 2. The Environmental Clearances and NEPA process is very time consuming. Navajo AML projects must go through the NEPA clearances before construction. Working on the AMLER projects with the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and D.C. office takes additional time and requirements are inconsistent with different agencies.

#### E. Budget and Finance

Q1. What are some accomplishments?

#### **Minerals Department**

1. The Minerals Department applied for and was approved funding for the following programs: Minerals Audit Program, \$1,346,021; Oil & Gas Inspection Program, \$824,857; and the Mine Safety Program \$54,785.

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

1. We have provided the safe and healthy working environment for the Office of Budget and Management to continue their invaluable duties for the funding of many tribal needs during the COVID-19 crisis.

#### **Navajo Land Department**

1. Land Acquisition Trust Fund FY2022 budget was approved but not without issues, discrepancies, and dis-approval, mainly due to disallowed expenditure items on the budget.

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. Worked closely with OOC to attain back-owed rental amounts from Telecommunication Tower Leases.

#### Fish and Wildlife

1. Both the Department's P.L. 93-638 Contracts, 5-Year contract extensions were approved by the Nabikiyateeh Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. Both the Fish and Wildlife Contract and the Natural Heritage Contract were approved.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. Resource Enforcement has submitted Position Classification Questionnaires to the Department of Personnel Management (DPM) to review the pay scale and job duties of the Ranger and Ranger Sergeant Classifications. DPM provided a report to RDC on May 12, 2021 stating they would have a finalized class specification within 15 days however Resource Enforcement finally received a response from DPM on August 9, 2021 regarding a draft classification. We provided DPM our requested edits to the Ranger Classification on August 17, 2021. We have not received a finalized reclassification for the Ranger positions and we have not received a draft classification for the Ranger Sergeant position to review.
- 2. Resource Enforcement has submitted Hazard Pay documents to the Office of the Controller to compensate staff for working during the NN Government closure.

November 18, 2021 – Thurman Balchinclowing from Payroll provided Departments with a copy of the Department of Personnel Management Hazard Pay Policy and Guidelines.

December 1, 2021 – Thurman Balchinclowing from Payroll provided Departments with the new 80 hour Overtime Form to be utilized for Hazard Pay, etc.

On March 25, 2021 – The Department of Resource Enforcement submitted the Navajo Nation Overtime Authorization Form to be paid for Hazard Pay related to Non-Exempt employees. The Department of Personnel Management Hazard Pay Procedures was submitted to our office via email by Mr. Thurman Balchinclowing on November 18, 2021. Then on December 1, 2020 Mr. Balchinclowing also provided the Department with the new 80 hour Overtime Form to be utilized for hazard pay – overtime .5, hazard pay – overtime 1.5 and holiday pay.

The Hazard Pay forms were returned to the Department on April 27, 2021 unprocessed by Darlene James of General Accounting and she attached a routing slip requiring:

- 1. Exceeds 5% limitation of salary;
- 2. Justification of work performed required;
- 3. Timesheet PPE;
- 4. Use the backpay form;
- 5. Call me after reviewing worksheet.

3. Attached was a memorandum dated January 15, 2021 from the Chief of Staff with subject: SPECIAL AND HAZARD DUTY PAY SUBMISSIONS - The following sections were highlighted on the memorandum "Hazard Duty Pay: Again, it is important to keep in mind not to exceed the 5% of employee's annual salary. Further,"

A four page worksheet showing the actual hours that were submitted on the 80 hour Overtime Form that Payroll instructed Departments to utilize for Hazard Pay. The worksheet showed the amounts to be compensated for each Ranger and Ranger Sergeant for their hours worked at the .5 and 1.5 rate pursuant to the Department of Personnel Management Policies. Ms. James then also provided an amount showing the 5% limit per the Chief of Staff's memorandum.

The Department of Resource Enforcement requested clarification form DPM, Reycita Toddy regarding the policy DPM sent out regarding Hazard Pay dated November 17, 2020. Several email correspondences were sent back and forth between DRE and Personnel Management. In the end, DPM stated we would not be using the Department of Personnel Management guidelines dated November 17, 2020. To follow the memorandum from the Chief of Staff dated January 15, 2021.

March 25, 2021 – An email was received from Mrs. Brenda Holgate, Division of Natural Resources related to guidelines for the payment of Hazard Pay to Exempt Employees. We were informed to utilize the payroll back pay request form. No further instructions were provided for Non-Exempt employees.

On April 28, 2021 Resource Enforcement sent an email to Dr. Rudolph Shebala to inquire about the DPM Policy on Hazard Pay and the Chief of Staff memorandum dated January 15, 2021. An inquiry was made as to why Resource Enforcement submitted a budget to the Navajo Nation Council for hazard pay approval pursuant to the Department of Personnel Management Guidelines if we were following the January 15, 2021 Chief of Staff memorandum? No response was received.

On May 3, 2021 Resource Enforcement submitted an email to Darlene James requesting the Business Unit line item number we would utilize to pay Non-Exempt employees a lump sum payment as OOC and DPM were referring to follow the memorandum signed by the Chief of Staff. In the FY 2021 Budget Manual there is no line item to utilize for a lump sum payment for Non-Exempt employees. There was no response from General Accounting on the request.

May 10, 2021 – Budget Transfer submitted to OOC for 5% payment Hazard Pay payment for Non-Exempt employees.

On May 19, 2021 DRE resubmitted the Hazard Pay for Non-Exempt employees to Darlene James, General Accounting based upon the guidelines in the January 15, 2021 memorandum from the Chief of Staff. We utilized the Navajo Nation Payroll Backpay Request Form.

On May 24, 2021 Darlene James of General Accounting once again returned the Hazard Pay forms for the Non-Exempt employees and the routing slip stated:

- Justification of work performed required
- 2. Timesheet PPE 11-8 to 2/7/21

#### 3. Object Code – Missing

May 28, 2021 – email sent to Dr. Shebala regarding OOC returning hazard pay for Non-exempt employees. No response was provided

June 18, 2021 – memorandum was received via email regarding Special Hazard Pay and Special Duty Pay Deadline.

Ms. Caroline Atcitty of General Accounting emailed the Department again on August 9<sup>th</sup> requesting the Department reinsert the Hazard pay hours for payout. DRE emailed Ms. Atcitty a chronological history of what has transpired since the Hazard pay forms were first turned in on March 25, 2021. DRE requested a meeting to clarify what was being requested. DRE had tried to work with Ms. Darlene James however no progress was made and thus Ms. Caroline Atcitty was brought in to work with DRE so the payments for the employees could be processed.

A meeting was finally scheduled for September 8, 2021 with Elizabeth Begay, Controller, Caroline Atcitty, Principal Accountant, Darlene James, Senior Accountant, Marcus Yazzie of Payroll to come to an agreement as to how the Hazard Pay would be paid out. An agreement was made in order to substantiate the work that was completed and to meet audit requirements that have been put on Darlene James at General Accounting. Each Ranger/Sergeant submitted their daily work field notes and the dispatch logs to Ms. Atcitty. We inquired several times why Rangers/Sergeants were not considered front line workers. We have yet to receive a response as to why they weren't. All Ms. James has informed DRE is that she is overworked and that it was Mr. Robert Willie of General Accounting who made the determination as to who was front line workers and who was selected to be compensated Hazard Pay. Ms. James insists she did not make the determination of who was eligible for the payment of Hazard Pay.

The non-exempt employees were compensated their Hazard Pay on September 22, 2021, however the exempt employees have not been compensated. When we met with Ms. James again on September 22, 2021 she informed us she doesn't know when the exempt employees will be compensated. She is reviewing the documentation on a first come, first serve basis. I informed Ms. James that we currently have funding in our FY 2021 budget and if the payments are processed after the fiscal year deadlines then there is no funding budgeted in FY 2022. She basically informed me that was beyond her control and that she is the only individual who is working on them and she does have some assistance from Ms. Atcitty and Ms. Brittany Griego. If we do not meet the deadline, then it would be up to the Controller to decide if she will allow accruals from FY 2022 to be charged to FY 2021. The last Controller didn't allow that to occur, so DRE was in deficit approximately \$81,000 and additional funding had to be allocated to cover the deficit for the Special Duty Pay that should have been paid in FY 2020 but was paid out of FY 2021 funds. This left no funding for the payment of Hazard Pay for DRE employees. Thankfully, OPVP

and the NNC advocated for funding for the Department to compensate their staff. The DRE has informed Ms. James of our predicament related to funding for Hazard Pay.

She informed us to talk with management about the lack of employees to process Hazard Pay and overtime claims for staff and to send them an email regarding our concerns she could not address them. She is doing the best she can at this time.

- 4. The Department was provided additional funding in the amount of \$750,000 during the annual budget process. The Department will utilize this funding to budget for seven new Ranger positions and the purchase of needed equipment.
- 5. The Navajo Nation has not designated a clear process in how it will be awarding and dispersing the ARPA funding. DRE has submitted several funding requests in various forms. However, there is no feedback as to how the funds are being awarded. We also do not receive notice as to what is being requested and the deadlines until the documents are due or past due. This is not feasible, the Department has turned in the documents to the Division several times in electronic format as requested by DNR. The Division should be able to compile it into the format that is being requested for submittal to OMB, OPVP or NNC.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The tribal parks developed proposed budgets for FY22 and completed the property inventories to attach to the budgets.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. NAMLRD is continuing to work on the FY'20 UMTRA no-cost extension grant. We are working with Navajo Nation Office of Management and Budget and Office of the Controller on a restricted budget that will take the FY'20 grant up to December 31, 2021. Then, the FY'21 grant will be in place to carry the UMTRA program to March 31, 2022.
- 2. NAMLRD is working with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on the FY'20 MSCA grant. The extra funds will be awarded in November 2021 to perform some work at the Cove Transfer Station #1 on a septic line re-installation.
- 3. NAMLRD has completed and submitted FY'21-22 Budget for approval by the Navajo Nation Council. We have also closed out FY'11 through FY'15, and completed open commitments and reports.

# Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority? Navajo Land Department

1. The LATF policy must be amended to address all issues and discrepancies to benefit the Navajo Nation with all real estate purchases and disposals, including budgets.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. The retrofitting of many leaseholders and researching towers that were erected without a Navajo Nation Telecommunication Tower Lease.

#### Fish and Wildlife

1. The Natural Heritage Program lost 2 permanent, full-time positions during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter due to funding shortfalls in the NHP 638 Contract. A remedy was found to fund the 2 positions using an Agriculture Infrastructure Fund allocation awarded to the Department in 2018 but was never used. This allocation would have avoided the layoffs and it would provide much needed operational support to NHP but OMB advised the Program it needed Resources and Development Committee approval to amend the AIF scope of work. The Department issued layoff notices to 2 employees, effective on March 12, 2021 and preparations are being made to present the amendments to the AIF award to the RDC in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.

# **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. An issue we face each time we are making a purchase it is a requirement the Office Supply Center sign off on the purchase order. This delays the purchase of the equipment, in this case firearms. We know the Office Supply Center doesn't sell firearms, ammunition or computers. However, we are relegated to have their signature approval on the purchase order for it to be processed. This is a cumbersome process already and we have to go thru each time we have to make a purchase. There is no individual delegated when the Program Manager at the Office Supply Center is away from the office or on leave. We then have to wait until the individual returns back to the office for a signature.
- 2. Hazard Pay has not been paid out to Resource Enforcement staff who were required to work during the COVID-19 NN Government Shutdown. We have followed the NN Department of Personnel Management policies and procedures related to the non-exempt employees. Then we were asked to compensate non-exempt employees according to a memorandum from the Chief of Staff, which contradicted NN Department of Personnel guidelines. Each time we have submitted documentation to General Accounting, they were returned unapproved. The following is a breakdown of the chain of events.

Now we are being informed, Ms. James at General Accounting is doing her best to process Hazard Pay claims. She informed the Department she had been asking for documentation regarding the work performed. However, when we asked her what documentation she was requesting when she states "description of task or work performed?" Her response was limited to two words: "Work performed." No further instructions were provided informing the Department as to what she was needing or looking for in a response. So the Department began compiling the information trying to decipher what "work performed" meant in the mind of Ms. James.

Thus we began a daily task list of our assignments and what work was completed. The documentation which was at least thirty pages for each employee was provided to Ms. James.

Now we are instructed that our payment request was submitted on a first come, first serve basis and she is unsure when she will process the payment.

### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The department has been allocated operating funds which are insufficient to cover all phases of park operations due to the tribal parks closures and resulting lack of revenue.

### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Changes in the grant software for federal agencies has been making the budget process more time consuming. The Navajo Nation President's signature is required on the budget forms, but the Navajo Nation Executive Order Review requires another departments' signature before the President. Due to this, it impedes the grant award timeframe.
- 2. There will be lack of funds for the next FY'22 to FY'23, due to this Navajo AML needs to restructure to sustain the program.

#### F. Education & Cultural Language Preservation

# Q1. What are some accomplishments?

### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. Our educational program and help to students through online video platforms like Zoom and Skype as well as through email continues to extend our reach to the public during this time of social distancing.
- 2. Maintaining email and online contact with students and teacher from the Navajo Nation and through the United States to provide accurate and detailed information regarding Navajo culture, traditions language and the Navajo people of the past and present.

# **General Land Development Department**

1. Aided DODE in attaining the leases for the schools they oversee.

#### Fish and Wildlife

- 1. The Navajo Nation Zoo provides the perfect location for Navajo families to enjoy the day together and learn about the culture of the local Navajo Nation wildlife, and their significance to Navajo Culture. The Zoo has informational signs for all of our large animals that explain their cultural significance in the Navajo culture.
- 2. The Department partnered with the Staff Development and Training Center to provide training to Department employees in learning conversational Navajo. One class was being held each month and 20 Department employees were enrolled in the class; however due to the COVID Pandemic, this project is now on hold.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

1. Completing the Law Enforcement Background Investigation Course.

- 2. Completing the Law Enforcement Civilian Background Investigation Course.
- 3. Assisting the Navajo Police Academy with firearms certification.

# **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The grant from the NRPA will provide funds to develop interpretive material along the trails such as history of the area, plants and wildlife, and stories by elderly people.

### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. We are obtaining requests from high schools outside of Navajo Nation to host STEMstation events. This is great because these schools also have Native students.
- 2. NAMLRD provided technical solutions during the drought tour on July 12-16, 2021. NAMLRD provided solutions while maintaining respect for the Navajo Cultural Beliefs.
- 3. Mr. Melvin Yazzie, Navajo AML'S Principal Mining Engineer, won the Dave Bucknam Outstanding Instructor Award. The national award was established by the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land (NAAMLP) Programs. The award nominee must exhibit the special qualities of dedication, leadership, compassion and commitment in promoting trainings.

# Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority?

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

1. Random instability of internet connection hinders students, virtual meetings and virtual tours when such things are requested and scheduled.

# **General Land Development Department**

1. The task required immense amounts of digitizing old physical records.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1 All trainings have been cancelled since the corona virus pandemic and this has prevented educational opportunities and participation by our personnel, we are utilizing telecommunication for training purposes.
- 2. With very limited staff, these request take out personnel from the field.

# **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The NRPA grant is still going through the 164 review which needed to be accepted by June 25, 2021. The grant was finally accepted in September way past the deadline.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

1. Due to Navajo Nation in orange category, we cancelled a STEMstation event that was going to be with Chinle High School. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, we cannot host STEMsation events outside of the nation with other schools.

### **G.** Government Affairs and Policy

Q1. What are some accomplishments?

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. We have followed all Navajo Nation policies as well as the policies of the CDC, NIH and NIAID policies to protect employees, the public and their families from the spread of COVID-19
- 2. While following the above policies the Museum has implemented even more strict policies for our visitors to follow during their time in the building.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. Aided in the leasing process for potential development of 3 solar leases and 2 alternative energy leases.

# Fish and Wildlife

1. Natural Heritage Program participated in the Resources and Development Committee Leadership Meeting regarding the development of a "One-Stop-Shop" for project reviews. The RDC voted to move forward with Option 1 to bring together reviewers under one Department and the General Land Development Department to process project reviews. Next step is for RDC to determine how the funding structure for this initiative will take place. No meeting with RDC or participating departments has been scheduled to discuss the funding strategy.

### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. Update Rangers PCQ's and Evaluations: The Department of Resource Enforcement has been updating all Employee Performance Evaluations and PCQ's with the intention to raise the pay scale of all Commissioned employees. The current pay scale is not compatible with other agencies (counties, states)providing the same services nor is it fair with the work that the Rangers perform. The Resource Development Committee has heard our presentation and has agreed with our stance.
- 2. New Mexico Indian Affairs Committee Meeting: On August 5, 2021, Ranger Sgt. Billy gave a report to the Indian Affairs Committee along with New Mexico Livestock Board about missing livestock on the Navajo Nation and working with the New Mexico livestock Board in recovering stolen livestock off the Navajo Nation. Ranger Sgt. Billy recommended that Eastern District Rangers have New Mexico law enforcement commission to go off reservation to check private livestock buyer's facilities.
- 3. New Mexico Livestock Board: On June 16, 2021 and July 21, 2021, Ranger Sgt. Billy attended a court conference call regarding stolen livestock recovery in Prewitt, New Mexico in 2019. Ranger Sgt. Billy assisted the New Mexico livestock Board officer in recovering stolen property in Haystack, NM. This case was filed in District Court by the New Mexico prosecutor.

The June 16 court conference call was a continuance requested by the Defender's attorney and the July 21 court conference call was dismiss due to the primary petitioner not calling in.

- 4. There are increasing requests from local Grazing Officials to attend dispute resolution meetings and regular meetings between them and the public. They are requesting for law enforcement presence at these meetings due to the potential for hostility from the public based upon topics or unfavorable decisions being made by the grazing officials. These requests are putting strain on an already lack of Rangers in the field. We are constantly faced with criticism from the public stating there is no law enforcement presence when called or the response time is inadequate.
- 5. Eastern Agency Land Board meeting: On August 11, 2021 Department Director Ms. Hope, Ranger Sgt. Billy and Ranger Begaye attended a joint meeting with Eastern Land Board Members , Crownpoint Police Department Officers, Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Indian Affairs staff to exchange information of how to better provide services for their community in a collaborative effort. Each Department and Agency gave presentation of type of services that they provided. Eastern Land Board members are now familiar of all the programs and what type of services that they can provide for their communities.
- 6. The Navajo Nation entered into a Stage 2 Fire Restriction. The Department of Resource Enforcement and Navajo Forestry do not have enough officers to cover 24 hours shifts should a wildland or woodland fire occur. It is imperative residents of the Navajo Nation comply with the fire restrictions.
- 7. DRE has been meeting with the Eastern Land Board Chairperson, Mr. Anthony Begay regarding issues in Eastern Agency. There is no clear process in terms of how land disputes/grazing issues are addressed. Since they are different land statuses the first step is to determine what the land status of the area is. The Bureau of Indian Affairs instructs the Eastern Land Board members and allottees to work with the Department of Agriculture, however the Department of Agriculture does not provide them any technical assistance on how to proceed with cases.

We are Resource Enforcement receive very limited response as well from the Department of Agriculture on issues. The constituents in Eastern Agency are becoming frustrated with the process and lack of enforcement in their areas. The Eastern Land Board members are doing their best to educate themselves on their roles and responsibilities. They are meeting with NPD and other law enforcement agencies on how to address issues that arise in their communities. One issue they would like to address is fencing and the need for signage in their areas. We have provided them guidance on how to obtain signs but they want to know who pays for the materials

they need. It is the responsibility of the land user to provide any signage or materials to repair fence lines or to put up signs.

- 8. In our trainings with the Office of the Prosecutor, we were informed a citation has to have an address on the Navajo Nation in order for the Prosecutor to prosecute the offense. If the individual's address is off the reservation the citation/summons will be declined for service. Laws need to be amended to address offenders who do not have an address on the Navajo Nation. For instance, a Navajo individual lives in Gallup, NM and has a PO Box address in Gallup, NM.
- 9. DRE presented before the NM Indian Affairs Committee and provided information regarding livestock theft and how DRE collaborates with the NM Livestock Office. NPD provided a presentation as well. The State of NM had discussions about the growth and production of Cannibas in the State of NM. The NN Department of Agriculture should have been in attendance at the meeting. The State of NM is inquiring how Tribal Nations in NM will be addressing Cannibas since it has been legalized in the State of NM.
- 10. DRE met with the Western Agency BIA office Mr. Casey Francisco and Tony Robbins. Discussed how we could work together to address various issues in the Western Agency related to grazing. We will continue to meet with them.
- 11. Listened in on conference call regarding Fish and Wildlife's proposed revisions to Title 23 and Title 17.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. Our department finalized revision to the Navajo Nation Tour and Guide Service Act including a new Table of Penalties to address violations of the law and agreement. This Act sets forth the guidelines for tour services on the Navajo Nation and in at least three tribal parks.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

1. Navajo AML continues to work with the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) and Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) on the Reauthorization of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). We are participating in conference calls and submitting our position statement on the Reauthorization. As part of this Legislation, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill has also become of interest to all Abandoned Mine Land (AML) programs across the U.S. (for coal and hardrock mining). The Infrastructure Bill will

be approaching a House vote in late September, and has already passed the Senate. IMCC has been a very valuable partner in pushing for Reauthorization and the Bills.

- 2. Navajo AML is working on a Fund Management Plan (FMP) to aid Navajo EPA on the Abandoned Uranium Mine (AUM) initiatives.
- 3. On September 17, 2021, NAMLRD sent a letter to Mr. Bluehouse, Jr., Deputy Chief of Staff and Mr. Chaco, Chief of Staff to meet with the Navajo Nation OPVP Administration. Navajo AML wants to give an update about the UMTRA program but also set a date for Navajo Nation President Nez and Vice President Lizer to virtually meet with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Director, Carmelo Melendez. DOE would like to meet with OPVP on their input and plan for tribal consultation.
- 4. NAMLRD is encouraging Navajo EPA to develop policies advanced by the Dine Uranium Remediation Advisory Committee.

# Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority? Navajo Nation Museum

1. Alerting off Navajo Nation visitors to mandates and protocols observed by the Navajo Nation and its offices.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. Explaining that the lease negotiations have to be cleared by NNDOJ first

# **Department of Resource Enforcement**

1. DRE has begun the process in developing a fair and equitable pay scale for its employee's based on the type and amount of work that is provided for the Navajo Nation. Should the pay increase be approved by Department of Personnel Management, a funding source has not been allocated from which the pay increase will come from. DRE is still awaiting a response from DPM.

The pay scale needs to increase for the Department of Resource Enforcement to that comparable of the Navajo Police Department. We have equal qualifications and training standards for our Rangers as set forth in NNPOST. This will allow us to attract candidates to the positions we currently have open.

2. Most required trainings for certification are located off the Navajo Nation and requires travelling long distances to attend and be considered certified to instruct certain topic being addressed related to conflict resolution, there are no extensive follow up training. We need to be able to travel off reservation to obtain training to meet NNPOST requirements. Lack of training has curtailed the training needs of our personnel who need to be certified Instructors in order to provide training to the Rangers, the pandemic has eliminated all travel off the nation and this hurts our overall training needs.

- 3. New Mexico Indian Affairs Committee meeting: The challenging part of this, is not knowing if the recommendation would be considered of having Eastern District Rangers be commissioned with the New Mexico law enforcement agencies. The Navajo Nation has no jurisdiction with non-native livestock buyers and to recover missing or stolen livestock.
- 4. New Mexico Livestock Board: The challenging part about prosecuting cases in court is not having the primary petitioner present and therefore these cases are dismissed. One of the challenges with working with the New Mexico Livestock Board Officers on state lands or border towns to verify illegal sales and transport of stolen livestock. Having that cross commissioning with the Livestock Board would be very helpful.
- 5. Eastern Agency Land Board: The challenge in providing adequate services to the Eastern agency chapter was most Land Board Members were unfamiliar with roles and responsibilities of each programs
- 6. Miscommunication and last minute requests cause confusion and conflict.
- 7. The Navajo Nation has passed Navajo Nation Peace Officer Standards and Training however Resource Enforcement is still lacking the commissioning authority to enforce Title 17. Resource Enforcement has met with Chief Francisco regarding the cross-commissioning agreement and Mr. Robert Allan is currently working on an agreement to allow for the commissioning of Rangers and Ranger Sergeants. Resource Enforcement has requested the cross-commissioning agreements be made between the Navajo Police and each Department Law Enforcement Program instead of one which includes all DNR law enforcement programs. However, the decision has been made by DNR and NPD to move forward with a cross-commissioning agreement as whole DNR unit instead of by individual Department's as was requested by DRE.
- 8. With a limited amount of Natural Resource Law Enforcement Officer's it is difficult to proactively address the Stage 1 and 2 Fire Restrictions. A complaint is made of fireworks or an open camp fire being lit however by the time we are able to respond the fireworks display is over and the violators are gone.

# **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. For Parks and Recreation Department, Title 5 and Title 19 need to be revised and updated so that they can adequately address the current situations in the tribal park areas.

#### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. The Federal Government is facing a shut-down on September 30, 2021. Congress needs to pass a FY'22 Federal Budget or issue a Continuing Resolution. Then, they need to take up these large Infrastructure Bills.
- 2. Issues relating to the Uranium Remediation on the Navajo Nation has been communicated by the current Navajo Nation President Nez and Vice President Lizer, along with U.S. EPA. The Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Council (DURAC) needs to give an update to stakeholders on the work they have accomplished to date.
- 3. Navajo EPA needs to develop polices and standards to fully advance Navajo CERCLA.

#### H. Public Safety System

# Q1. What are some accomplishments?

### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. Warnings, advisory information and prevention methods posted to social media and physically around the Museum to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- 2. Hand sanitizing stations throughout the building to encourage safe health practices while visiting the museum.

# **Navajo Land Department**

1. GIS Section/NLTDS is still able to help HCOC, IHS, NNPD, FBI, NNCI, NHA, OPVP, and NTUA throughout the pandemic with maps, data as well for the Dine' people.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. Aided in the deployement of FirstNet services through Leadership Meetings with CellularOne under the counsel of the Resources and Development Committee.

# **Forestry Department**

1. Coordinated, communicated and collaborated with the BIA, Navajo Region, Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management, to recommend the lifting of the Stage II Fire Restrictions issued for the Navajo Nation.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. **Stage 2 Fire Restriction:** Conducted fireworks and Stage 2 fireworks patrols for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. Stage II Fire Restriction: Rangers assisted the Navajo Nation Forestry Department and providing patrols within the Woodland and commercial forest areas throughout the Fourth of July weekend. Rangers focused and patrolled dense woodlands areas that are high risk to a forest fire. Patrols started from noon to past midnight hours.
- 2. **Ranger Recruitment:** The Department is having difficulty filling Ranger, Recruit and Sergeant positions. The recruit positions, individuals have qualified and passed the test however they are not returning the necessary documents to complete the background investigations. Background investigators cannot proceed without the signed consent of the applicants. It has been over a month since the applicants were provided the necessary documents to be notarized

and returned so the background investigation can begin. Thus, the applicants have been notified and we can no longer wait and we will re-advertise the positions. The Ranger Sergeant position was advertised and two qualified applicants were received. One applicant declined the interview. The second applicant was interviewed however they scored below the passing score on the Ranger Sergeant's exam and thus were not qualified for the position. The Department will be readvertising the position.

- 3. DRE now has two Background Investigators to conduct its own Background investigations on applicants. On Ranger is currently working with Navajo Police to become familiar with the background review process. We still need another individual who needs to complete the training so they can become an adjudicator. We have interest in individuals who are wanting to pursue a career as a Ranger. This is good for the Department however it takes the investigators out of the field and answering calls for service to complete the background investigations. We do not have a position dedicated solely as a background investigator, recruiter, etc.
- 4. DRE has been meeting with the Chief Prosecutor's Office for several months to establish a better working relationship and improve operations pertaining to law enforcement issues in the field. The DRE was collaborating with former Acting Chief Prosecutor Brandon Bitsuie regarding Natural Resource prosectutions. Since he has left the office we have not met with the new Acting Chief Prosecutor.
- 5. Assistance to Department of Public Safety: On June 16, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy and Ranger Tsosie responded to White Rock, NM to assist another Ranger Unit and Crownpoint police officer on a threat to a waterline construction site. A member of a local community who was opposed to the construction had interfered with the project. All necessary actions were taken. Assistance was also provided on June 21, 2021 in Sweetwater, AZ. Sgt. Billy and Ranger Lapahie assisted the Shiprock Police Department to secure an arson scene throughout the night. No major incident occurred throughout the night. On July 3, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy and Ranger Lapahie assisted the Crownpoint Police Department, McKinley County Search and Rescue, Criminal Investigators and local volunteers in a search of a missing person in Borrego Pass. After a few hours, the missing person was found after four days missing in a canyon. The individual was deceased, but there is closure in this case. On July 30 and 31st 2021, Ranger Sgt. Billy and Ranger Begaye assisted the Shiprock Police Department in an on-going Search for the missing person in Sweetwater. Multilaw enforcement agencies participated in the search on ATVs and UTVs that covered a large area within Sweetwater chapter. Sgt. Billy and Ranger Begaye searched arroyos, abandoned structures, trash sites and checked secondary roads for vehicle and ATV tracks. The missing person was not found but the search was a success.
- 6. Livestock on the Right-Of-Way- Eastern District Rangers continued to remove livestock off of Right-of-Way. These areas are on Highway 602, south of Gallup, Highway 566 north of

Church Rock, Highway 134 in Crystal, NM, Navajo Route 5 east of Toadlena junction, Highway 64 north of Beclabito, NM and on Highway 491 south of sheep Springs. The fencing in these areas needs to be repaired or replaced.

- 7. Gallup Humane Society: on June 18, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy and Department Director Wilson met with staff at the Gallup Humane Society regarding livestock entering and damaging property within the Gallup city limits. The Department of Resource Enforcement agreed to assist the Humane Society on identifying cattle owners if the Humane Society would properly supply pictures of cattle and their brands. Areas of concerns were around Hogback area, Rehoboth area and Southeast area of Gallup.
- 8. Resource Enforcement also has pending court cases in which the livestock have been sold at auction and the proceeds have been deposited into the Navajo Nation financial system miscellaneous line item. They are pending a dispostion from the courts. Staff have left the program and we do not know the current status of the cases. Resource Enforcement has written to all District Courts inquring about pending court cases within their jurisdictions. Only three of the District Courts have responded to our request or inquried about the nature of our request.
- 9. Resource Enforcement submitted applications for Navajo Nation Post Certification to Navajo Police Department. Resource Enforcement has received their NNPOST Commission Cards. The Division of Natural Resources is working on developing a Memorandum of Agreement regarding cross-commissioning. The Department has requested a separate cross-commissioning agreement between NPD and DRE however DNR has made the decision to move forward with one agreement between all DNR Programs and NPD against the request of DRE.
- 10. The Navajo Department of Parks and Recreation has not provided a response regarding a memorandum that was sent to them several months ago. The memorandum addressed the returning of Resource Enforcement equipment and the return of ammunition to the Parks and Recreation Department.
- 11. Graduation from the Indian Police Academy: Ranger Charolotte Mark graduated from the Indian Police Academy on July 16, 2021. Ranger Marks now continues her Field training program with the different programs under the Division of Natural Resources prior to operating on her own.
- 12. **Public Education:** State of Emergency Declaration regarding the drought. We continue to assist the Navajo Nation Grazing Officers by providing information on the drought and encouraging livestock owners to reduce their livestock. Some areas of the Nation did not receive enough precipitation and overall condition of livestock is poor.

- 13. **Wheatfields Fire:** The Department of Resource Enforcement Rangers assisted with the Wheatfields, Arizona Fire by securing the area and keeping people out of the immediate area so fire personnel could concentrate on the fire and ensuring the public was safe.
- 14. **NNPOST** On August 18, 2021 the Navajo Nation Post has awarded DRE Rangers a cetificate of Standards and Training Commission. This certification enables each Ranger to serve as a Peace Officer within the boundries of the Navajo Nation.
- 15. On august 31, 2021 DRE assisted the Kayenta Navajo Police Department in the Tall Mountain, Arizona where a Non indian male was alleged to be breaking into residential homes. The unidentified person was seen in the area, but was not detained. He was eventually apprehended in Mexican Hat, Utah.
- 16. We continue to receive calls for service regarding dog attacks or dogs attacking livestock. Laws need to be revised to address these issues. More animal control officers need to be hired to address the current demand for service. These positions are easier to fill since they are not commissioned positions.

### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The Navajo Parks and Recreation's Rangers have really gone beyond the call of duty to monitor tribal parks.

# Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority?

#### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. Maintaining a presence at the Museum to ensure information can also be given to unknowing tourists while keeping staff members safe.
- 2. Maintain constant and around the clock control over access to the Museum building including visitors.

#### **Navajo Land Department**

1. GIS Section/ NLTDS loss 2 vital positions to help with our GIS as well as our Information Technology, server input/output information.

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. The proposed Telecommunication Tower Leasing Regulations are pending the processing of NNTRC.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. The Stage 2 Fireworks Restriction was signed stipulating no fireworks on the Navajo Nation, however Office of the President and Vice-President decided to have fireworks at several locations across the Navajo Nation.
- 2. The CODY Dispatch system went offline and DIT, IT from the Navajo Land Department and CODY Systems tried to diagnose the system. However, No log numbers were able to be pulled from the system so no citations were able to be written for fireworks enforcement.
- 3. It would be helpful if all DNR law enforcement were working concurrently to enforce all DNR laws. During the fourth of July weekend only Parks and Recreation and DRE Law Enforcement Officers were actively patrolling for the Stage 2 Fire Restriction and Fireworks activity.
- 4. With very limited staff it is difficult to schedule interviews and conduct background investigations. Request for assistance from the public and other agencies curtails schedules and interviews.
- 5. The Chief Prosecutor's position is filled on an acting basis and when change occurs it affects the progress we have made and we start all over to begin to orientate the new person who is filling the position. The prosecutor from the Dilcon office has informed us to call her anytime we have questions about how to proceed with a case. She has also provided us the templates for the filing of cases.
- 6. Assistance to the Department of Public Safety: In every multi-law enforcement agency enforcement or collaboration the major challenge is communication due to the remote areas of the Navajo Nation. Our assistance has been requested however, commands and changes come at the last minute. For instance we were asked to assist NPD at a grazing dispute resolution meeting. We were to be at the location at 0900 however the grazing official changes the date and did not notify NPD or DRE until after 5 pm when administrative staff have gone home for the day. We did not receive notice until after 8 am the meeting had been postponed. We already have staff enroute to provide assistance and when the time changes at the last minute and we are not notified pulls staff from their Regular Days Off or from other calls for service and assignments.
- 7. Stage II Fire Restriction: The challenging part of this assignment is the firework activity occurs at night and locating violators in the dark is very challenging because of too many access roads. It would be better to have checkpoints set up at the entry points to the Navajo Nation or let local border towns know the fire restrictions on the Navajo Nation due to the drought conditions.

- 8. Livestock on the Right-Of-Way: The challenging part of removing livestock on the right-of-way is that cattle guards are filled with sediment, gates are open to Highway access, no gates exist, or sediment has built up on right of ways and right-of-way fences are half buried.
- 9. Funding to purchase PPEs and emergency equipment for the personnel that respond to emergencies i.e... Fires, Smoke, Chemical Spills, Contagious Dieases etc.
- 10. There is little to no interdepartmental interaction to share information regarding what each department can provide to assist each other and the public.

# **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The department has only four Park Rangers to cover all the tribal parks which consist of over 3 million acres.

#### I. Infrastructure

# Q1. What are some accomplishments?

#### **Minerals Department**

1. The Minerals Department completed an assessment of six water wells in the N-Aquifer for the Nation to utilize: N1, N2, N3, N6, N7, and N8. The assessment included physical inspections, review of tests performed by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, review of Annual Hydrological Reports compiled by PWCC, and review of Annual Reclamation Status and Environmental Monitoring Reports compiled by OSMRE. The Minerals Department's assessment concluded that conditions are favorable for the Nation's use of these wells for human, livestock and agricultural watering systems.

The Minerals Department drafted a letter to PWCC for the President's signature requesting that PWCC, in accordance with 30 CFR § 816.41 (g), obtain approval from OSMRE to transfer the wells to the Nation for further use, and per § 816.133, request the land use status be changed to a higher or better use category from the current category, grazing and wildlife.

The Minerals Department submitted the draft letter to DOJ for review and DOJ deemed the draft legally sufficient. The draft letter for President Nez's signature was submitted via the 164 Review Process to OPVP for review and signature.

# **Department of Water Resources**

1. Navajo Nation awarded Agreement R21AC10424 between Bureau of Reclamation and The Navajo Nation for Oljato Drought Resiliency Well - The total estimated project cost for this

Cooperative Agreement No. R21AC10424 FY21 DRP Agreement Template (07/2021) Page 6 of 49 Agreement is \$769,866.00 and the total estimated amount of Federal funding is \$300,000.00. The initial amount of Federal cash available is limited to \$30,700.00 as indicated by the section titled "Amount of Financial Assistance This Action" within block 12 of the NOA. In addition to, and at the request of the recipient, Reclamation is providing construction services in the amount of \$269,300.00. Navajo Nation awarded \$492,000 from Utah Navajo Trust Fund to complete the design of the Oljato Water Well and provide Construction Management.

- 2. 2020 Capital Outlay projects that were reauthorized from New Mexico Environment Department to New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (NMIAD). Scopes of work and budgets for 17 Intergovernmental Agreements for water- and wastewater-related projects were submitted to NMIAD. 2021 Capital Outlay included 8 projects whose scopes of work and budgets were submitted. New Mexico also awarded Tribal Infrastructure Funds for the following projects on the Navajo Nation: Rock Springs Chapter, Navajo Nation (\$281,516) Rock Spring Chapter Navajo Code Talkers Lateral; Sheep Springs Chapter, Navajo Nation (\$315,078) Regional San Juan Lateral Water Project; Newcomb Chapter, Navajo Nation (\$369,528) Regional San Juan Lateral Water Project Newcomb Chapter Connection; Standing Rock Chapter, Navajo Nation (\$467,865) Tse'ii'ahi' Waterline Extensions; Crownpoint Chapter, Navajo Nation (\$2,613,482) Regional Beacon Bisti N9 Lateral Water Supply Project, aka NGWSP Reach 10.1/2/3; To'hajiilee Chapter, Navajo Nation (\$3,568,180.35) -To'hajiilee Albuquerque water supply line
- 3. Navajo Nation approved \$58,225,000 for Western Navajo Pipeline Phase I projects through CJY-39-21. The funding compliments over \$26 million of existing funds. Recently, the Water Management Branch advertised for the construction of the Contract No. 2: Well House, Storage Tank, Altitude Valve, and Pipelines, Navajo Nation Western Navajo Pipeline Phase 1 Bodaway-Gap Well, Tank and Pipeline Project. Includes Well 3 Pump House: Installation of a new pump house and well site improvements with miscellaneous telemetry system; Storage Tank: Construction of an 80,000-gallon storage tank with yard piping, transducer vault, site improvements, and miscellaneous telemetry system; Well Supply Pipeline: Installation of approximately 42,184 LF of 10-inch potable water line with 6-inch altitude/flow control valve station.

#### **General Land Development Department**

1. Aided Navajo Department of Water Resources, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, New Mexico DOT, Arizona DOT, and Navajo Nation DOT on the abilities of the TAA.

### **Forestry Department**

- 1. Working with NTUA to permit tree removal within project identified boundaries, for the establishment of powerline/electrical services for families.
- 2. Partnering indirectly with the Department of Water Resources, in their planning efforts to develop a waterline project in the Chichiltah/Pine Haven, NM area.

# **Historic Preservation Department**

- 1. We have reviewed and issued numerous CRCFs for infrastructure projects (electric, water, fiber optic, solar, etc.) under the CARES and the LUN II fundings in this quarter. Additionally, we have also reviewed and issued compliance for other projects such as roads maintenance and improvements. We are also gearing up for projects funded by the Navajo Nation's America Recovery Act funds.
- 2. BIA Natural Resources Western Agency project completed (District 1,3 Southern Segment of fence line near Leupp, AZ). HHPD-HMS archaeologist completed cultural resource monitoring required at 2 sites on August 12, 2021.
- 3. Shonto Preparatory School. BIA-NRFM plans to demolish building for new housing. Memorandum report completed on 8/16/21 and is in review at HPD-CRCS. High priority for BIA and Shonto school.
- 4. In addition, Fort Defiance Headquarters Parcels 3, 4 and 5 are priority projects for Land Transfer for BIA buildings. Memorandum report submitted on 7/21/21 and is in review at HPD-CRCS.

#### Fish and Wildlife

1. The Department prioritized CARES Act funded projects for expedited project review and compliance determination. Coordinated with NTUA on processing CARES Act projects for power and water line extension projects.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

1. Right of way removals: Rangers while on daily patrols encounter livestock and equine roaming or grazing in the Right of Ways of roadways. The Rangers will remove livestock and equine from the Right of way in regards to motorist and livestock or equine safety. Rangers have encountered 34 incidents of livestock and equine being within the Right of Ways. Rangers have removed 108 horses and 18 cattle from within the Right of Ways.

# Navajo Parks and Recreation

1. Delivery and installation of a double wide trailer which will be used as offices for department staff. At the current time there is no enough office space for central office staff.

- 2. Four Corners Monument Powerline NTUA has completed the right of way clearance for the powerline and will begin installation from the Teec Nos Pos junction to the monument boundary. The connection to be made inside the monument still need to be designed and engineered but power will be available to the park office building and fee stations. The MOU with NTUA is still going through 164.
- 3. Contract for design/engineering of the Lower Antelope Canyon access road and parking lot has been approved and issued a contract number. The consultant is in process of evaluating site conditions and preparing preliminary design plans.

### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Work with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on a septic line relocation in the Cove, AZ area. The septic system was compromised during their remediation work. Under our Partnership, Navajo AML is working on designs and locations to implement the new system. Funding is also being worked on.
- 2. NAMLRD has developed numerous functional, permanent surface water management systems that will help heal erosional impact to mother earth. These sediment retention structures will also store and save surface waters, retain topsoil, and increase vegetation.

# Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority? Minerals Department

1. On March 12, 2021, the Minerals Department submitted to the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) a report on the Kayenta Mine Facilities that: 1) are immediately available to the Nation to use and eventually retain; and 2) are safe to occupy or use. The report to DNR provided the basis for the recommendations and were made in collaboration with the Heritage and Historic Preseratoin Department and the Navajo Nation EPA. The report was intended to support a draft letter to PWCC for the President's signature. This draft letter was submitted to DOJ for review but was deemed legally insufficient according to the Minerals Department's inquiries with DOJ on the status of the letter. The draft letter has stalled and its whereabouts are unknown.

It is frustrating to put group effort and resources into a project and then not be informed on the status of the project. This is a challenge.

# **Department of Water Resources**

1. Staffing shortage causes delays in submittal of documents for administration of agreements, budgets, contracts, etc.

#### **Navajo Land Department**

1. GIS Section/NLTDS has started the test stages of the Homesite Uploader where the process will be done electronically through the cloud services with Andy Frain Services. Once this is complete this will speed up the process for lessees to get their infrastructure to their homes.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. There are no real challenges aside from Non-Navajo owned entities cannot apply for a TAA.

#### **Forestry Department**

- 1. Having the BIA approve permits issued in a timely manner, so that powerline construction activities can be completed.
- 2. Land status boundaries within the project area are challenging, as the Department is working to stay on Navajo Nation Trust Lands only, when counting the number of trees that will be impacted with this waterline construction project. Land statuses are a mix of allotted, state and private lands.

#### **Historic Preservation Department**

- 1. The COVID-19 pandemic put a hold on many infrastructure projects throughout the Navajo Nation. Progress slowed down for BIA Natural Resources hiring subcontractors to construct the Southern segment fence line. However, the Ancestral Lands Conservation Corporation completed the South Segment fence line near Leupp.
- 2. Shonto Preparatory School will be proposing new housing and will need cultural resource compliance to move forward with proposed infrastructure.

#### Fish and Wildlife

1. Limited staffing levels are a barrier to meeting review requests and DOJ also issued a determination to bypass biological reviews for all CARES Act funded projects. This presents concerns regarding threatened and endangered species impacts and impacts to highly sensitive habitats.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1.Right of Ways removals: Most challenging part of Right of Way removals is getting the livestock or Equine out of the Right of Ways. A Ranger has to assess the location for safety concerns for the livestock and equine being removed and the motorist accessing the roadway. Set a plan to herd the livestock and equine back into the range. In most incidents, the livestock and equine will run along the fence and not go through the opened gates. The Ranger will use their emergency lighting systems (CODE 3) on their vehicles to alert motorist. Most of the motorist are traveling well over the posted speed limit or do not yield. The challenging and more concerning part of Right of Ways is the fence separating the Right of Way and Range Lands; are in need of mending and post repairs. There are long stretches of area on the roadways that have missing fence posts and fence lines broken or missing. The cattle guards that are designed to keep the livestock and equine from entering the Right of Ways; are filled with dirt making it easy for the livestock and equine to gain access to the Right of Way. In some instances, the livestock and equine have discovered ways to cross the cattle guard without getting stuck.
- 2. A work session or meeting needs to be conducted in order to define each Natural Resource Enforcement Department's duties and responsibilities. The majority of calls are fielded through our DNR Central Dispatch and Resource Enforcement is responding to calls however

other Departments can assist as well. There are administrative remedies for grazing and land issues. I have not been a part of these hearings with the Department of Agriculture and the Navajo Land Department. Decisions from these hearings are not forwarded to our office for our information. Often complainants call and report incidents and they inform us the District Grazing already heard their case and a decision was made or they turned in their papers to Agriculture or Land and have not heard from them regarding their complaint. DRE inquires with Department of Agriculture and Land Department about the status of these cases however we are not provided a copy of the complaint or subsequent decision.

# **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

- 1. NTUA has too many other priority projects which has delayed this project.
- 2. The closure of tribal offices which are vital to process payments and contracts as well as the continuing priority on the CARES fund projects.

# **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. With the new fiscal year so close, we have to wait until FY'22 or November for funding. We are working to get permit clearances through Navajo EPA but it has been difficult.
- 2. Not many Navajo Programs, Departments, and Entities are practicing or implementing surface water management system. We need educational opportunities or trainings on this topic.

### J. Agriculture and Land Issues

Q1. What are some accomplishments?

#### **Minerals Department**

1. The Minerals Department completed a draft letter for President Nez's signature to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The draft letter is in response to a BIA letter dated September 2, 2020, to the Navajo Nation (Nation) requesting the Nation's recommendation on an application from Navajo Transitional Energy Company (NTEC) to partically surrender reclaimed land currently leased to NTEC under Coal Mining Lease No. 14-20-603-2505.

NTEC's application includes three jurisdictional land types for surrender and release: Pre-Law Land, 1525.1 acres; Interim Land, 518.8 acres; and Undisturbed Land, 164.9 acres.

The Minerals Department, Surface Mining Program reviewed NTEC's application, participated in a series of teleconferences with NTEC to resolve or clarify questions about the application and conducted three (3) on-site inspections of the subject lands at Navajo Mine. During the site visits, the Surface Mining Program inspected the Custer, Dodge, Watson and Bitsui revegetated areas within the lease surrender area. NTEC was asked to provide the locations of the Coal Combustion Byproduct (CCB) disposal areas on a map, provide a corrective action for a 4-6 feet erosional feature at Bitsui area, repair fence line at east Custer ramp 5

boundary marker EQ-22B, and repair fence line at lease boundary marker EQ-21B. An inquiry was made on the performance bond associated with the areas. During the March 10, 2021 follow up inspection, the Surface Mining Program found that the fence line was repaired but the erosional features at Bitsui area had not been completed. By letter dated May 11, 2021, and during a May 25, 2021 conference call, NTEC reiterated that all the concerns raised by the department were corrected. This was supported by before and after photographs of the area. On inquiry about the bond, BIA indicated that that there was no separate bond for the applicable area.

The Minerals Department's research on the CCB disposal areas found that prior Navajo Nation administration approved the CCB disposal sites from 1971 to 2008. CCB is regulated as a solid waste under subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and OSMRE guidance directs that disposal practices must be consistent with the environmental protection standards of SMCRA and its regulations. In 2015, the Comprehensive Hydrologic Impact Assessment (CHIA), which is required by SMCRA, was analyzed for the Navajo Mine by the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation & Enforcement (OSMRE). CCB disposal at Bitsui and Watson areas were analyzed. The CHIA found that CCB disposal areas have been designed to have positive drainage away from the ash disposal site to avoid puddling, sheet flow, or other collection of water above or near the disposal site. Moreover, the pit floor of the areas lies directly on top of a shale and mudstone which restricts vertical transport of CCB leachate laden water.

After review and analysis of NTEC's application, the Minerals Department recommends approval of NTEC's application for partial lease surrender of the subject lands for rangeland/grazing only. The lands should not be for any type of development. The Minerals Department consulted with Land Department on its review and Land Department concurred with the department's recommendation.

The Minerals Department submitted its draft letter to DOJ for review. DOJ requested additional information and is currently reviewing NTEC's application and the draft letter for President Nez's signature.

2. The Minerals Department, Surface Mining Program conducted joint mandatory inspections with OSMRE inspectors at Chevron Mining Inc.'s (CMI), McKinley Mine; NTEC's Navajo and Pinabete Mines; and Peabody Western Coal Company's (PWCC) Kayenta Mine.

The McKinley Mine inspections included Areas 4, 5, 6, 14 and 15 with no violations. The Surface Mining Program issued a maintenance list to repair minor gullies, rills and silt fencing. The Navajo Mine inspections included the North Facilities, Yazzie and Hosteen reclamation areas where there is extensive reclamation occurring. The Pinabete permit, or the southern

part of the Navajo Mine lease, is currently being mined with on-going contemporaneous reclamation. No violations were issued for both permits. The Kayenta Mine inspections also yielded no violations. PWCC is reclaiming land, demolishing and salvaging equipment.

The CMI Phase 1 and 2 Bond Release inspections were conducted on August 24th through 25th. The bond release consisted of 1,459 acres in Area 2 and 506 acres in Area 10. CMI is requesting a bond release of \$31,262,931 for Phase 1 and \$15,321,000 for Phase 2. Phase I includes backfilling, regrading, and drainage control. Phase II occurs after topsoil replacement and establishment of revegetation. The Bond Release inspections mostly determined that CMI needed to address erosion and sparse vegetation issues.

3. Kaibeto Sand & Gravel Pit: The Minerals Department performed a dual a reclamation bond release inspection with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on Kaibeto Resources Inc.'s (KRI) Sand and Gravel pit in Kaibeto, Arizona. KRI is seeking a release of its lease bond; however, the inspection determined that KRI is not in compliance with the terms of its approved Mining, Production, and Reclamation Plan (MPRP). This is an on-going issue. The BLM, BIA, and Minerals Department are in agreement that KRI must abide by the reclamation plan that it submitted and agreed to before the BIA releases its bond. The outstanding issues pertain to reclamation non-compliance.

The Wheatfield Sand & Gravel pit operated by Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority (NECA) has been operational throughout the 4th Quarter. This pit is being used to provide material for the N12 road construction from Wheatfield lake north on N12. Operations are in compliance with federal production, operation, and reporting requirements.

The Emma Brown Sand Gravel pit, also operated by NECA, is a Sand and Gravel borrow pit operation. This operation has provided borrow material for both the N27 road project between Nazlini and Chinle, AZ and the N12 project in Wheatfield. Operations are in compliance with federal production, operation, and reporting requirements.

#### **Navajo Land Department**

- 1. A DNR approval letter for the purchase of Lopez Indian allotment was completed and is now ready to be closed.
- 2. A DNR approval letter for the Carson TP property purchase was completed and funds to open escrow has been submitted to OOC.
- 3. Our Land Status database as we get newly acquires or exchange lands, to verify issues as well as land use permit locations for premittess and grazing officials.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. Held meetings with Navajo EPA on Navajo Nation Solid Waste Act Violation Remediation and how to enforce violations before a Homesite Lease can be issued, per the Homesite Leasing Regulations.

#### **Forestry Department**

1. Continuing to conduct the Continuous Forest Inventory project. A total of approximately 100 locations have been completed.

# **Historic Preservation Department**

1. Heritage and Historic Preservation Department prepared two budgets: \$120K and \$250K for the Agriculture Insurance Fund (AIF) in the Third Quarter for agricultural projects across the Navajo Nation. The funds were provided through the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture.

#### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

- 1. **Closure of Blackhat Facility**: The Department of Agriculture was shut down due to COVID-19 positive tests. This impacts the Department of Resource Enforcement. We were restricted from picking up livestock. We were only allowed to pick up livestock under exigent circumstances. We received several calls from individuals who had corralled livestock and were requesting pickup. We had to inform them we could not pick up any livestock at this time.
- 2. **Grazing Issues:** The Department of Resource Enforcement is responding to many disputes between family members regarding grazing and land issues. The family has a grazing permit that is shared between siblings and it names an individual as an administrator or trustee of the permit. The administrators however are stating the grazing permit belongs to them and they are not sharing the permit with other family members. An orientation needs to be completed between BIA, DRE and grazing permittees regarding how the administrators and trustees are to oversee the grazing permits.
- 3. **Grazing Permits:** Many grazing permits have not been probated and the five year requirement to probate the grazing permit has expired. Yet families still have livestock on the range and utilizing and old permit.
- 4. **Probated Grazing Permits:** Some individuals have probated the permit and the BIA has not reissued the permits for various reasons. The BIA issue a document that states they can

utilize the old permit until a new permit is reissued but under what agreement was the BIA allowed to utilize this practice.

- 5. **Feral Horses/cattle:** DRE continues to assist the Department of Agriculture with the feral horse problem, we continue to seize feral horses and transport them the central impoundment facility in Black Hat, N.M.. Horses are being penned up by ranchers who are trying to preserve what little forage/water there is for their livestock.
- 6. **District Grazing Meeting:** Resource Enforcement has been assisting Grazing Officers and providing information regarding the laws associated with Title 3 of the Navajo Nation during their schedule meetings and when they request information or need assistance.
- 7. **Livestock/Equine seizures:** Rangers respond to Stray Animal reports around a residence and Right of Way on highly traveled roadways. Central District Rangers have responded to reports of Stray Animals from residents claiming that horse(s) or cattle are constantly coming to their residence and causing damage to fencing, barns and other property. These Stray Animals are trying to get to a food source or water. Some of the Stray Animals are stallions or bulls. Rangers have seized livestock from reports made by the Navajo people. Rangers respond to Livestock or Equine continuously being in the Right of Way of highly traveled roadways. The responding Ranger assesses the location of the Right of Way and sets a course of action to capture the Livestock or Equine, while observing the safety of the passing motorist and the livestock and equine being captured. Rangers have respond to 2 Right of Way situations and seized 1 horse and 3 cows. The horse and cows are seized for the safety of the motorist accessing the roadways. The fencing along the highways needs to be maintained either by individual land users, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, State Departments of Transportation or the Navajo Department of Transportation.
- 8. **Right of way removals**: Rangers while on daily patrols encounter livestock and equine roaming or grazing in the Right of Ways of roadways. The Rangers will remove livestock and equine from the Right of way in regards to motorist and livestock or equine safety. Rangers have encounter 16 incidents of livestock and equine being within the Right of Ways. Rangers have removed 42 horses and 58 cattle from within the Right of Ways within the Central District.
- 9. **Dogs killing livestock:** Central District Rangers responded to 7 reports of dogs attacking and killing livestock. In most incidents reported the dogs belong to a neighbor or family member. The dogs doing the attacking and killing are usually blue heeler and German shepherd crossed breeds. When the responding Ranger completes his/her investigation and determines the suspected dogs does belong the neighboring residence or family member. The Livestock owner does not want to take any legal action and wants the Ranger to have the dog owners or an Animal Control Officer remove the dog out of the area. In fear their neighbor or family member will

retaliate against them. In other instances, the supposed dog owners, would say the dogs do not belong to them and are stray dogs that wondered to their yard and stayed around.

- 10. Investigate Animal Damage: Central District Rangers responded to 2 reports of Wildlife killing livestock or equine. In these investigations the Ranger will locate the area of the incident and determine what killed the livestock or equine. The Ranger will scan the scene for tracks and animal struggle marks. The Ranger will also look at the livestock or equine; for bite and scratch marks and in the manner how the animal died. By looking where the animal had been bitten on the carcass. Bears, coyotes and mountain lions will kill an animal a certain way and the Ranger will look for those signs on the carcass of the animal. The Ranger will make the determination and refer to Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife Predator Control Agents. Out of the 2 incidents reported 3 sheep were killed by coyotes and 1 horse was killed by a bear.
- 11. Livestock and Property Theft: On June 28, 2021 Ranger Begaye responded to Church Rock, NM about a possible livestock theft. Ranger Begaye met with the livestock owner and says that her neighbor are chasing and trying to steal her horses. Ranger Begaye met with the neighbors and was informed that they were not stealing them. The Neighbor and the Reporting Person are in a land dispute and they were chasing the Reporting Person's horses back to her area. The Neighbor complained that the Reporting Person is not keeping her livestock within her area. The Reporting Person was advised to keep her livestock within her grazing area. Another call was on July 23, 2021 in Crownpoint, NM, Ranger Begaye responded and met with the Reporting Person and says he is missing 15 cows and 7 calves from a Tribal ranch. The livestock owner was not sure if his cattle were stolen or wandered off into another nearby ranch. A missing livestock report was filed. Another call was on August 26, 2021 Ranger Begaye responded to TeecNosPos, AZ about a report of a possible livestock theft activity at a nearby rodeo arena. When Ranger Bagaye arrived at the rodeo ground, he found a few cattle and all of the cattle were branded with the rodeo ground arenas owner's brand. No further action was taken. On August 10, 2021 Ranger Begaye responded to White Rock, NM about someone taking a calf from its mother in a white truck with a trailer. Ranger Begaye searched the area and did not locate any suspicious vehicle and therefore no further action was taken.
- 12. Livestock Death Investigation: On June 21, 2021 Ranger Begaye responded to Tohatchi, NM about 14 cattle dead on an open range. Upon Ranger Begaye's investigation, it appeared that the cattle and two horses were disposed of at this location. There was no evidence of any bullet wounds or open cut to the carcass. On June 28, 2021 Ranger Begaye responded to Iyanbito, NM about a calf that was shot and killed. Ranger Begaye tried calling the Reporting Person and was unsuccessful and searched the area and he did not locate any dead carcasses. On July 20, 2021, Ranger Lapahie responded to Toadlena, NM about a cow that died in the mountain. Upon Ranger Lapahie's investigation, he had determined that the cow died from eating plastic bags from a nearby residential trash. Predators had been feeding on the carcass

and the stomach content had plastic bags in it. On July 21, 2021 Ranger Lapahie responded to San Juan Chapter about a horse that has been shot twice. Upon Ranger Lapahie's investigation of the dead horse lying near the highway, he did not find any bullet wounds or any evidence of having collided with a vehicle. Ranger Lapahie determined that the horse died of natural causes, most likely of old age due to it's worn down teeth. On August 5, 2021, Ranger Begaye responded to Church Rock, NM about a cow that recently died in a ditch with blood coming out of its mouth. Ranger Begaye found no evidence of any open wounds and determined that the cow died of natural causes. On August 25, 2021 Ranger Lapahie responded to White Rock about two dead cows. The cause of death for these two cows were unknown, however the range was very poor and a nearby windmill was out with no water. This case was closed.

- 13. Investigation of driving livestock off range: On June 17, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to Dalton Pass about a neighbor chasing cattle and shooting at them. Sgt. Billy met with the reporting person and the neighbor, who is an elder regarding the incident. The neighbor told Sgt. Billy that she was fed up with the cattle coming to her house at night and she keeps her dogs inside and they would bark most of the night, keeping her awake. The neighbor does not have a fence around her house to keep the livestock away and therefore she was advised to fence up her homesite. This case was documented. On August 23, 2021 Ranger Lapahie responded to White Rock, NM about people chasing cattle and horses around. Upon arrival Ranger Lapahie met with the local Grazing Official who was sponsoring a horse training seminar and one of the horses escape. The owner and couple of volunteers finally captured the horse.
- 14. Investigation of Livestock Trespass: On July 28, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy, Ranger Mark and Sr. Property Officer Yazzie assisted a livestock owner to transport sheep and goats who were trespassing on a homesite to another location. This case was an ongoing case until a court order was issued. The assistance was completed without any major incidents from both parties. On August 8, 2021 Ranger Lapahie responded to Shiprock, NM about a small herd of sheep doing property damage. Ranger Lapahie met with the Reporting Person and says that the sheep had come once to her property ate a few of her plants and has not seen them for over three days and was not sure who owned the sheep. Ranger Lapahie search the area and found several residence with small herds of sheep and says that it could be any one of them and therefore no enforcement was required. On September 2, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to Red Valley, AZ about an aggressive bull trespassing into a grazing area. Sgt. Billy met with the Reporting Person and was told that the bull had been grazing often in their area and they were worried about it charging the mother who herds sheep every day. The aggressive bull was seized and removed from the area. On September 4, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to Crystal, NM about cattle trespassing onto a Range Management Unit. This incident is an ongoing case involving siblings. Upon Sgt. Billy's interview of one of the siblings, the suspected cattle trespass were purchase from a family member and the cattle's ear tag is

still on them and therefore his siblings was expecting him allowing other cattle to graze on their family's Range Management Unit. This case was documented.

- 15. Investigating Livestock causing Property Damage: On June 24, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to Church Rock, NM about stray horses roaming through the NHA housing damaging property offenses. Sgt. Billy met with the Reporting Person to obtain description of horses roaming through the neighborhood, afterwards the area was searched and the horses were not located. Another incident occurred on August 10, 2021 when Ranger Begaye responded to Thoreau, NM about livestock damaging an allotment fence. Crownpoint Police Department responded and submitted a report, however the Reporting Person requested the report to be modified. Ranger Begaye advised the Reporting Person to take to report back to the officer who responded to make those changes on the report. No further action was taken On September 3, 2021 Ranger Sgt. Billy responded to lyanbito, NM about horses causing damages to a property. Upon arrival, the Reporting Person told Sgt. Billy that the neighbor's stallion attack her horse statue and broke its tail and platform. The property owner recently got approved to fence off her grazing area, but at this time it was considered as open range. Sgt. Billy made contact with the stallion owner. The owner had tried to have the stallion castrated. This case is documented.
- 16. **Fencing:** The Department is responding to calls regarding individuals either installing fencing where it is not requested or taking out existing fencing. Individuals continue to dispute neighbor's boundary lines regarding open range grazing and home site areas. We encourage individuals to fence in their home site areas to avoid conflict between them and the livestock on the range however it is not a law for home sites to be fenced in.
- 17. Navajo Rangers investigated a report of possible organized livestock theft. Ranger personnel worked both day and night hours to conduct surveillance in the region to detect any suspicious activity. Cattle theft is being reported in the Eastern Agency by one individual who is informing community members and grazing officials that they are the point of contact for these reports. They are informing individual's to report these cases to them and they will contact Resource Enforcement with the information. The individual has been informed to have complainant's report the information directly to DNR Central Dispatch and that the reports cannot be made anonymously. Central Dispatch needs contact information so the claims can be substantiated. Resource Enforcement continues to receive requests via email, with email often, the sender's names are not disclosed and they when contacted they do not respond. A Ranger is not sent if the reporting party is unknown.
- 18. The Department of Resource Enforcement has received several requests from various Chapters in the Northern Agency determining it is the duty of Resource Enforcement to plan and coordinate voluntary livestock sales. The Department of Resource Enforcement has requested clarification from the Chapters regarding the resolutions that have been passed. Resource

Enforcement is a law enforcement agency and we cannot ask livestock owners to sell their cattle. It is the responsibility of each livestock owner to determine the drought conditions, provide water for their livestock and whether the land can sustain their livestock.

- 19. Resource Enforcement has received requests for assistance from individuals who reside on allotments. Our authority is limited when providing service on allotments. We refer allottee to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for assistance. We have to be mindful of the land status when responding to calls for assistance. Resource Enforcement has been informed, the BIA is not responding to their requests for assistance as they do not have enforcement authority. The process for allottee needs to be clarified so issues can be addressed. The allottee is sent from one agency to another when reporting land or grazing issues.
- 20. **Land Disputes:** Many families are disputing land permits or grazing permits. They have not probated these documents for many years. There also is no affordable remedy in order to resolve these issues. The Department of Agriculture has a dispute resolution process however this does not address probate cases. Families have to hire an attorney to probate the assets of the deceased. However, families do not have the funds to pay for this to occur and they continue to dispute over documents.
- 21. Missing Livestock: We have received complaints from Individuals about their neighbors chasing their cattle and corralling them. The complainant does not have a valid grazing permit but let's their cattle graze on the land which creates conflict with their neighbors. The livestock infringe onto the grazing area of their neighbors who do have grazing permits. This creates conflict when the complaint knows they should not be letting their livestock out of the corral. The complainant then goes around to the neighbor's asking if they have seen their cattle and when the Ranger responds they inform the Ranger their neighbors have taken their cattle and possibly sold.

#### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The department has received approval for a boat dock installation on the Navajo Nation side of the Colorado River below Lee's Ferry from the Corps of Engineers. This project is necessary to utilize lands which are "controlled" by the National Park Service although the project is on tribal lands.

# **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

- 1. Navajo AML has met with the Many Farms Irrigation board and chapter to evaluate their concerns for the Many Farms Diversion Dam structure. Navajo AML is recommending bringing in state and federal stakeholders to discuss some options, environmental concerns and possible funding. This process also needs the support of the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) and Water Resources and Agriculture.
- 2. NAMLRD implemented and developed numerous surface water management systems that has shown to help mother earth heal itself.

# Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority?

# **Minerals Department**

- 1. The reviews to determine if the mine operator is in compliance with lease terms, permit terms, and regulations are resource and labor intensive. Determining compliance involves onsite inspections, which the Surface Mining Program put on hold due to the pandemic until late this spring.
- 2. The Navajo Nation's internal review process is very lengthly and time consuming and can be shortened if there were additional legal reviewers in DOJ or OPVP.

# **General Land Development Department**

1. Many cited individuals are hesitant to remediate the area due to it being on the border of their homesite lease perimeter or they do not have the transportation. Most do not want to acknowledge the Environmental Specialist's recommended next steps for cleanup.

# **Forestry Department**

1. COVID-19 protocols, Partial government closure and collecting additional inventory information, which requires more time, at each location. In addition, the number of crews actually doing the inventory compared to the number that was planned initially has been challenging. Weather conditions and procurement of needed supplies to complete this inventory have slowed progress.

#### **Historic Preservation Department**

1. The Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) have not responded to our requests for the status of the budgets we submitted. It would be great to know if we received the funds so we can prepare to undertake projects as planned.

# **Department of Resources Enforcement**

- 1. Local chapters are not participating or assisting in the removal of feral horses within their chapter boundries, leaving the local grazing official without equipment or personel to assist him/her.
- 2. The Department of Agriculture does not want the responsibility of overseeing the regulatory function of the livestock inspection portion of title three. Nor are the grazing officials interested in becoming livestock inspectors for their respective chapters.
- 3. **Livestock/Equine seizure:** Most challenging part about the seizures is the feral horse problem on the Navajo Nation. Often when a Ranger arrives at the location of a Stray Animal request. The horses are too wild and skittish to get into a livestock trailer. This type of behavior in the horses causes them to bend or break the reporting person corral panels. Some horses will often display an ornery behavior and try to bite and kick the Ranger trying to load the horse into the livestock trailer. Another challenging issue a Ranger would face is the lack of livestock trailers. Other Rangers would be utilizing the livestock trailers and sometimes the trailers would need maintenance repairs. The other challenges are the time it takes to respond to the requests. A Ranger would have to go to the impound yard get a livestock trailer and head to the location of the request; this would take most of the day to complete.
- 4. **Right of Ways removals:** Most challenging part of Right of Way removals is getting the livestock or Equine out of the Right of Ways. A Ranger has to assess the location for safety concerns for the livestock and equine being removed and the motorist accessing the roadway. Set a plan to herd the livestock and equine back into the range. In most incidents, the livestock and equine will run along the fence and not go through the opened gates. The Ranger will use their emergency lighting systems (CODE 3) on their vehicles to alert motorists. Most of the motorist's are traveling well over the posted speed limit or do not yield. The challenging and more concerning part of Right of Ways is the fence separating the Right of Way and Range Lands; are in need of mending and post repairs. There are long stretches of areas on the roadways that have missing fence posts and fence lines broken or missing. The cattle guards that are designed to keep the livestock and equine from entering the Right of Ways; are filled with dirt making it easy for the livestock and equine to gain access to the Right of Way. In some instances, the livestock and equine have discovered ways to cross the cattle guard without getting stuck.
- 5. **Dogs killing livestock:** The most challenging part of dogs killing livestock is the kinship and neighbors of the livestock owners and dog owners. In most incidents, the livestock owner does not want to pursue any kind of legal court actions or repayment of the killed livestock. This is because the livestock and dog owners are closely related. In most instances, the livestock owners do not want to cause any problems within their family. In the incidents, with the neighbors the

livestock owners are afraid of retaliation by the neighboring family. Another challenge is, the response time by the Animal Control Officer. This often gives the dog owner enough time to hide the alleged dogs. In other incidents, the alleged dog owner will not claim onwership on the dogs; but will say the dogs are strays. People drop off unwanted dogs near their homes; those dogs will wonder to their homes and will not leave. They say, they have tried to contact Navajo Nation Animal Control, to have them pick up the stray dogs; but the Animal Control Officers do not respond. The alleged dog owners, say they had tried to catch the stray dogs; but they are unable to catch the stray dogs.

- 6. **Investigate Animal Damage:** The challenges of investigating animal damage, is determining what caused the animal to die. There are a lot of varying factors in determining the casue of death to an animal; could be human or wildlife caused. Upon initial interview of the reporting person; the reporting person would say someone is shooting their livestock or horses. These allegations are challenging to determine, if the livestock or horse had been shot; due to no witness to an alleged suspect shooting the livestock or horses. If wildlife is the cause of death to livestock or horse; the challenging part is determining what kind of wildlife killed the animal. The Ranger has to be able to recongize a predatory animal track. Also, be familiar on how a predatory animal, will attack and kill its prey. The most challenging part of investigating animal damage, is the time it is reported. In almost all incidents, the incident had occurred weeks to months ago. Making the determination impossible, and the animal carcass is too far decomposed and completely eaten by wildlife in the area.
- 7. **Livestock Property Theft:** The challenging in some of these cases are land or grazing disputes or having revenge over their neighbors. Another challenge to this investigation is not having a suspect or witnesses who actually saw the crime being committed.
- 8. **Livestock Death Investigation**: As mentioned above about the challenge is not having a suspect or witness in these investigations. However in most investigations, the initial call turns out to be something different. For instance, people see a dead livestock and they assume someone has killed their livestock.
- 9. **Investigating driving livestock off range**: The challenging part about investigating his most homesites are not fenced to keep livestock away and this causes disputes among neighbors. Another challenging area is people assuming someone is chasing their livestock off the range. The livestock may have the same color and size.
- 10. **Livestock Trespass:** There are two challenges of investigating livestock trespass. The first is the owner of the livestock is unknown or the livestock had moved off the area. The second is family disputes.

- 11. **Livestock causing Property Damage:** The most challenging part about this is most home sites are not fenced and their trees and other plants around the home sites invite roaming livestock. The second challenging part is due to the drought, livestock are searching for water and the easiest place to get water is near residential areas where people water their dogs and have water in their air conditioners.
- 12. Resource Enforcement contacted the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the removal of possibly oil located at the old Central District Office. The 55 gallon barrels have been at that location for over 10 years. Resource Enforcement asked for assistance for EPA to verify the substance inside the barrels and for proper disposal instructions. Sgt. Anderson Harvey from their criminal enforcement section responded and he infromed us a representative from EPA would contact the Central District Supervisor however that never occurred. The substance is still at the location. The EPA finally had NOSHA respond to the complaint and instead of assisting NOSHA informed DRE was to put together a disposal plan for the substance and provide them the disposal plan for review and approval. EPA and NOSHA were no help in this matter. DRE does not know who left the substance, what it is and when it was left there.

Resource Enforcement would like to set up a holding pen at the location in Chinle, AZ. This will allow for livestock to be relayed and dropped off at the holding pen from Western and Central District R Rangers. Then other DRE Rangers or staff can travel to the location and pick up the impounded livestock and transport them to the holding facility in Blackhat, NM. This will allow Rangers to respond to more requests for service and will be able to pick up livestock on a quicker basis. We have already purchased the materials for the construction of the holding pen. We would like to work with Water Resources Technical and Construction Branch to have their welder build the holding pen. DRE does not have any funding to hire a contractor to complete the project.

- 13. **District Grazing Meeting:** Some challenges in cases like these are complicated because some disputes are carried down from generation to generation. Navajo Nation Courts often referred these cases back to the District Grazing Committee Members to be resolved. The District Grazing Committee Members have limited authority to resolve disputes. Often these cases reoccur the following term. Resource Enforcement is not provided any documentation from the Department of Agriculture regarding the mediation decisions. It would be helpful if we are provided this documentation so when we respond to a call for service we know the history and background of what has transpired between the parties.
- 14. **Cruelty to Animals:** The challenges to cruelty to animals is knowing who the rightful livestock owner. Sometimes neighbors complain about their neighbor's livestock not being properly cared for or fed. When a Ranger arrives on scene and finds water and hay available for the livestock.

15. **Livestock/Equine seizure:** The most challenging part about the seizures is our livestock trailers are in need of much needed service and repairs. The Department of Resource Enforcement is only operating with one working livestock trailer; which we have to make a schedule to do unwanted pick up request. This causes the reporting person to release the horses back on the range because the Ranger does not respond in a timely manner. The other challenges are the time it takes to respond to the requests. A Ranger would have to go to the impound yard get a livestock trailer and head to the location of the request; this would take most of the day to complete. The Department has tried to work with the Department of Agriculture to have them transfer fund so a contract can be encumbered for services. DRE needs to have their trailers maintenance and I have asked repeatedly for this to occur and I have brought it to the attention of the Division of Natural Resources on several occasions. We are reaching a point when DRE will have no equipment available to pick up and transport livestock for impoundment or seizure.

The Department of Agriculture complained about the funds in the Livestock Custody Fund that was managed by the Department of Resource Enforcement. With allegations including misspent funds. Mr. Watchman and Sgt. Randall Jim have repeatedly stated they want an internal audit to be completed. The Livestock Custody Fund was then transferred under their Department and they were informed they had the power to request for an internal audit. We were to share the funds in the Livestock Custody Fund and it would be managed by the Department of Agriculture. However, there are several items that need to be paid for and the Department has not responded to our repeated requests for payment of those items.

The Department of Resource Enforcement (DRE) had requested to the Department of Agriculture for the issuance of a purchase order to the Northwest New Mexico Regional Landfill. Until the Department of Agriculture issues a purchase order to the vendor the Department would not dispose of any livestock carcasses. We submitted a reimbursement for Ranger Delfred Begaye who disposed of a carcass at the landfill on September 26, 2020. The request for reimbursement was submitted on October 1, 2020 to the Department of Agriculture and he has not received reimbursement.

I was informed Ranger Sgt. Jim verbally informed Rangers/Sergeants to dispose of carcasses at the transfer station in Thoreau, NM and for them to utilize their own funds and they would be reimbursed. However, I informed the Sergeants that Ranger Begaye was still waiting on his reimbursement from last September therefore they will not utilize their own money to pay the disposal fee and wait for reimbursement from the Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture has provided the Department with a purchase order from the Veterinary Clinic for us to utilize to dispose of carcasses, however Ranger Begaye still has not been reimbursed for utilizing his own funds for payment of the disposal of the carcass.

The Department of Resource Enforcement has sent the original memorandum dated October 1, 2020, several emails and made phone calls to the Department of Agriculture related

to the payment of bills, need for a budget transfer, and issuance of purchase orders for hay etc, contract encumbrance and the reimbursement of fees paid by Ranger Begaye. The Department of Agriculture has only recently responded to the request for the payment of Jaramillo's Well Service. That is the only item that has been attended to.

The Department has called on the following occasions:

October 19, 2020 – Department of Agriculture was closed per Mr. Leo Watchman

January 4, 2021 – no answer

January 11, 2021 – no answer

Emails were sent on the following occasions:

October 19, 2020 - Budget Transfer

October 29, 2020 – Follow Up

January 29, 2021 – Follow Up

February 05, 2021 – Vendor wants Payment

February 16, 2021 – Budget Transfer

February 22, 2021 – FY 2021 Budget for Livestock Custody Fund, BU# 915009

February 25, 2021 - Budget Revision Signature Authorization Form for BU#915009

Once again I reiterate the Department of Agriculture needs to process

- 1. A budget transfer needs to be completed for the encumbrance of a contract in the amount of \$7,500 to Navajo Tractor Sales for repairs and maintenance of trailers.
- 2. Payment to Padilla's Portable Restrooms in the amount of \$212.00
- 3. Reimbursement to Ranger Delfred Begaye in the amount of \$35.70.
- 4. Gallup Pumping Service \$106.00.
- 5. United Rentals Purchase order for \$1,652.57. The vendor will need to deliver the hay barn and we need to rent a fork lift to unload the materials.
- 6. Jaramillo's Well Service \$13,656.80 replacement of the existing water system.
- 16. No agency has gone out and determined the carrying capacity of the land. A study needs to be completed to provide documentation to support an evaluation of the drought and land conditions. If the carrying capacity has changed then an evaluation can be made to review the reissuance of grazing permits and possibly the reduction of livestock.
- 17. Poachers are coming onto tribal ranches and they are cutting fences in order to access their hunting kills.
- 18. Participated in work session with Division of Natural Resource Departments and NABI Committee regarding home site leases. Many issues exist regarding home sites. To name a few complaints we receive at DRE are related to unauthorized land clearing for home site, illegal mobile homes being moved onto the land without proper home site lease, neighbors blocking roads to home, building of homes without a home site lease and unauthorized tree cutting for

home sites. It needs to be recognized that it is not illegal to not have a home site lease. It is against the Home site Lease Regulations of 2016.

Compliance officers need to be funded and hired by the Land Department to handle home site complaints. Land Department has an administrative process in place and we inform complainants they need to complete the complaint form, pay the fee and turn in the forms to the Land Department. If the forms are received by the Land Department they are forwarded to our office for an investigation. Once we complete the investigation the findings are then forwarded to the Land Department and it is the Land Department to make a determination on how to handle the situation. There are fines in place for individuals who violate the Home site lease Regulations of 2016. These fines and the payment of the fee to file the complaint could be used to pay the salaries of the compliance officers.

- 19. The Resources and Development Committee is considering eminent domain and consent requirements of grazing permittees. In the incidents that occurred related to the water projects, this will only increase the need for law enforcement presence at these construction projects to ensure the safety and well-being of the workers. Individuals are protesting or disagreeing with the construction projects and this hinders construction progress, timelines and budget constraints when projects have to shut-down. This also increases animosity between the public and the workers at the construction sites. Navajo Police and Rangers have limited officers available to respond to these requests and we have been coordinating efforts thus far to provide coverage at the construction locations.
- 20. **Land Dispute:** The most challenging part of Land Disputes is that newly Grazing Officials are Land Board Members are not familiar with the history of the land used by various families. When a new Grazing Official or a Land Board Member takes office, there are no records or files of dispute cases available for their review and information. Therefore, previous Land Dispute cases continues to reoccur every four years. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is also not aware of all the new homesite leases within these fee lands. BIA sets these Fee Land boundaries excluding residential, farmland and ceremonial areas. The Fee Land Permit Holder pays an annual fee to graze livestock on this fee land, but cannot graze the entire area. Once homesite leases are established and the resident moves in and brings along pets including dogs, this creates a totally different challenge for our Department.

Land Disputes are mediated through the Department of Agriculture and complainants file them through their local grazing official or directly with Agriculture. We are informed Agriculture is not providing them information related to their case or that a decision has been made however the other party is not complying with the decision of the mediation hearing. Department of Agriculture does not provide Resource Enforcement a copy of the complaints or the mediation decisions. We have made several requests for the information on various cases and no response has been provided by the Department of Agriculture. This frustrates the complaining party since they have followed the mediation process and there is no enforcement being provided.

21. The current mediation process at the Department of Agriculture requires both the complainant and the other party to have a valid permit in order to proceed through their mediation process. If one of them does not have a valid permit then they cannot hear the case for mediation. The only other alternative is to file in the District Court and most individuals do not follow through with the process. Even if the individual files in the court and a judgement is made it does not necessarily mean the court order will be complied with.

Resource Enforcement is not made aware of the mediation process hearings nor are we invited to the hearings. Thus when complaints are addressed we are not aware of the history of the cases we are responding to. The complaint may have already been mediated by the Department of Agriculture and a decision made to address the issue. If we are provided a copy of the mediation hearing decision then we could provide this to the District Supervisor so they are aware of decision that have occurred.

- 22. Met with the Department of Agriculture/BIA regarding an on-going land dispute in Ft, Defiance Agency. Department of Agriculture is to search for historical documents related to the case and we will meet again. DRE is to verify the allegations in the complaints.
- 23. Provided technical assistance to Western Agency grazing official regarding dispute over livestock. The family needs to probate the grazing and land use permits. The family is also disputing the granddaughter's awarding of the home site lease. Informed the grazing official the family will have to probate the documents.

### **CALLS FOR SERVICE for the Quarter:**

- 1. 3018 Patrol: Roadway
- 2. 3000 Check: Security or Welfare
- 3. 2004 Issue: Livestock Brand/Verification
- 4. 4020 Provide General Information
- 5. 3017 Patrol: Range
- 6. 3021 Patrol: Woodland Area
- 7. 3004 Check/Feed: Seized Livestock Impound Yard
- 8. 5008 Removed Livestock from Right of Way
- 9. 3022 Relay
- 10. 3003 Check Spring & Windmill Structure

For the quarter, 2,560 calls for service have been received. The majority of the calls are reported on Thursday with 501 calls for service. So far this calendar year, the busiest month for Resource Enforcement was April, which consisted of 1,186 calls for service.

### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

1. The National Park Services claims jurisdiction at the location. The permit issued by Corps of Engineers will expires on October 1, 2021 and President Nez signed a letter requesting extension for another year.

### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

1. It is difficult to obtain funds for the Many Farms project. We are trying to search for potential partners to support us in this initiative.

### K. First and Second Lady Priorities

Q1. What are some accomplishments?

### **Navajo Nation Museum**

- 1. While following all protocols for the safety of the community and employees the Museum has been able to reach both the national community and the Navajo Nation community to answer any and all question regarding education pertaining to the Navajo Lifeways, culture, language and Navajo people of the past and present.
- 2. Through the diligence of the Museum staff we have made an online presence to give advisories and recommendation on how to slow and stop the spread of COVID-19, this information is in English and Navajo to reach the most vulnerable demographic of the youth and the elders of Navajo communities.

### **General Land Development Department**

1. Have aided in the consultations for recreation based land withdrawals

### Fish and Wildlife

- 1. The Department and the Animal Control Program coordinated with the Office of First Lady/Second Lady in the signing a Spay/Neuter Proclamation for the month of February. The Department hosted the President, the First Lady, the Vice President and the Second Lady for the signing ceremony. The event was fed live on Face Book and provided an opportunity to promote and raise public awareness of pet owner responsibilities and animal control issues across the Navajo Nation.
- 2. The Animal Control Program participated in a live webinar hosted by the Office of the First Lady/Second Lady regarding animal care and animal control. The Program provided an informational presentation on animal control laws and animal issues.
- 3. Zoo staff are thankful to have a new relationship with the Office of the First Lady and Second Lady, as well as the Office of the President and Vice-President. This relationship has

yielded a number of benefits to the Zoo including: 1) First Lady provided adoption to 26 animals that were available for sponsorship; 2) First Lady and Second Lady teamed up with Zookeeper Stephanie Shirley who provided them an hour-long recorded virtual tour of the Zoo, and several others videos, that are available on YouTube; 3) President promised up to \$150K of landscaping work at the Zoo and we are now working on completing a contract for that work; 4) the OPVP is requesting that the former NNP&R lands in Tse Bonito Park be turned into future Zoo Expansion Lands; 5) the President's architect is working on a draft mock-up of future developments in the Zoo Expansion area.

### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

- 1. The outdoor recreation in tribal parks is not necessarily accomplishments but there are trails available for hiking.
- 2. A grant was received from the National Recreation and Parks Association for development of a trail network in the western agency parks. The amount is \$466,000 and for a three-year period.
- 2. Cultural teachings are part of the interpretive talks given to visitors at tribal parks and the tour operators telling visitors about Navajo culture.

### Q2. What are some challenges in achieving the priority? General Land Development Department

1. There is a hold up on environmental clearances with all cognizant departments.

### **Navajo Parks and Recreation**

- 1. Some challenges for outdoor recreation could be weather conditions, conditions of the trails, and the amount of time needed to complete a hike.
- 2. The staff has to be trained on effective ways of doing interpretive talks on cultural teachings.

### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

### **Navajo Nation Museum**

Date			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
(MM/DD/YYYY)	Location	<b>Event Name</b>	Reached	(Brief Summary)
07/1/2021 -	NN Museum	Limited Opening	782+	The Museum resumed limited
Present				services for the public at a
				limited occupancy of 25 total
				visitors in the Museum, Gift
				Shop and Galleries. All safe

				practices are in place to ensure the health and wellbeing of all guests and employees.
7/1/2021 – 9/30/2021	NN Museum, Skype & Zoom	Virtual Tours ages 16 - 80	27	Virtual tours provided an online connection to help students & adults engage with Navajo history and culture to provide an accurate narrative to non-Navajos.

**General Land Development Department** 

Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location	Event Name	Number(s) Reached	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
07/15/2021	St. Michaels	Taking Website	+550	Taking the GLDD Website live
		Live		with accompanying tutorial
				video on Land Withdrawal
				Designations.

**Historic Preservation Department** 

Date			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
(MM/DD/YYYY)	Location	Event Name	Reached	(Brief Summary)
Minimal due to COVID-19 Pandemic				
6/23/2021	NECA Shiprock	NNC Review status of proposed Shiprock Hotel Project	30	Discussion of transition and completion of financial grant agreement, land withdrawal, legislative amendments, and future plans of Shiprock Hotel, Economic Development, and Tourism
6/29/2021	Nenahnezad Chapter	Chapter Meeting with Chapter President	4+	BIA and HMS providing update on Noxious Weed project and Chapter to discuss community pilot project
7/6-8/2021	Mancos CO	Pecos Conference	200+	Attended presentations, viewed various projects, discussed recent research projects and collaborated with archaeological companies
8/27-29/21	Crystal Chapter	Spin Off-Textile artists gathering	20+	Provided brochures, bags, other items to participants to

				raise awareness about our department
9/14/21	Cornfields	Chapter Meeting	5+	Attending chapter meeting to
	Chapter	with Chapter		discuss plans to revitalize
		Officials		agricultural farms plots

**Fish and Wildlife Department** 

Date: (MM/DD/Y YYY)	Location	Event Name	Numbers Reached	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
6/21/2021	Ganado/Kinlichee	Animal Control	30+	Information on
	Arizona	General Info and		spay/neutering, Animal
		Unwanted Pet Day		Control laws, etc.
6/28/2021	St. Michaels, Ft	ACP General Info	50+	Information on
	Defiance, Window	and Unwanted Pet		spay/neutering, Animal
	Rock Arizona	Day		Control laws, etc.
6/15/2021	Sundance, NM	Animal Sweep and	72	Information on
		Animal Control		spay/neutering, Animal
		General Info		Control laws, etc.
April –	Shiprock Animal	Animal Control	250+	Information on
June 2021	Shelter	General Info and		spay/neutering, Animal
		Rabies Clinic		Control laws, etc.
April –	Tuba City Animal	Animal Control	250+	Information on
June, 2021	Shelter	General Info and		spay/neutering, Animal
		Rabies Clinic		Control laws, etc.
7/2/2021	Lupton Chapter Youth Workers	CC on the NN	8	Presentation and Q&A
		Animal Control		Information on
7/6/2021	Shiprock, NM	General Info and	50+	spay/neutering, Animal
		Unwanted Pet Day		Control laws, etc.
		Animal Control		Information on
7/7/2021	Red Valley/Cove, AZ	General Info and	50+	spay/neutering, Animal
		Unwanted Pet Day		Control laws, etc.
		AVIIIII		Presentation and
7/7-9/21	NN Museum	AYH Hunter Education Class	10	Certification
7/9/2021	Boyer Ranch	State Lease	10	Mid-term inspections
		Inspections for		conducted by Colorado
		Foster Gulch and		Department of Agriculture,
		Froze Creek		State Land Board

7/10/2021	WSR	Adriano Tsinigine Northern AZ University	8	Mr. Tsinigine collected (200) plants for the Navajo Nation, Deaver Herbarium, Flagstaff Arizona. Documenting plant species on the ranch
7/11/2021	Red Lake Chapter	CAPNN	15	Presentation and Q&A
7/12-16/2021	RDC Drought Tour	DROUGHT	15-40	Presentation and Q&A
7/13/2021	Fire Rock	Navajo Police – Crownpoint District	50	Central Dispatch Unit operations
7/21/2021	Naschitti Chapter	CAPNN	10	Presentation and Q&A
7/22/2021	Ramah Chapter	CAPNN	25	Presentation and Q&A
7/22/2021	Crownpoint, NM	Community Presentation – Animal Control	50+	Information on spay/neutering, Animal Control laws, etc.
7/25/2021	Wolf Springs Ranch/ Eastern Agency	CAPNN	23	Presentation and Q&A
7/26/2021	lyanbito and Church Rock, NM	Animal Control General Info and Unwanted Pet Day	50+	Information on spay/neutering, Animal Control laws, etc.
7/29/2021	Tohatchi, NM	Animal Control General Info and Unwanted Pet Day	50+	Information on spay/neutering, Animal Control laws, etc.
7/30/2021	Lupton Chapter Youth Workers	CC on the NN	4	Presentation and Q&A
8/3/2021	Navajo, NM	Animal Control General Info and Unwanted Pet Day	50+	Information on spay/neutering, Animal Control laws, etc.
8/4/2021	Crownpoint Community Trails Youth Workers	Erosion Control	12	Presentation, Workshop, and Q&A
8/8/2021	WSR	Quality Auction Services, Rapid City, SD	5	Meeting with Judson Seaman on the potential video auction of the bison calves in December. Decision will be made by November 2021.
8/10/2021	Upper Fruitland Chapter	CAPNN	10	Presentation and Q&A
8/11/2021	Fire Rock	Eastern Agency	200+	Central Dispatch Unit operat

8/19/2021	Houck Chapter	CAPNN	15	Presentation and Q&A
8/20/2021	Wolf Springs	Superior Livestock Auction	10,000	Cattle calves were sold at the video auction, Big Horn Classic Sheridan WY.
8/27/2021	Oljato Chapter	Drought Tour/CAPNN	Unknown # of Callers	Presentation and Q&A
8/30/2021	Tuba City Coordination Meeting	Drought Tour/CAPNN	6	Presentation and Q&A
8/30/2021	Dine College BIO 181 - Tuba City, AZ	Drought Tour/CAPNN	10	Presentation and Q&A
8/30/2021	Leupp Chapter	Drought Tour/CAPNN	Unknown # of Callers	Presentation and Q&A
9/1/2021	Sheepsprings Chapter	Drought Tour	Unknown # of Callers	Presentation and Q&A
9/2/2021	Navajo, NM	Animal Control General Info and Unwanted Pet Day	50+	Information on spay/neutering, Animal Control laws, etc.
9/7/2021	Two Grey Hills Chapter	CAPNN	Unknown # of Callers	Presentation and Q&A
9/7/2021	Round Rock Chapter	Drought Tour	9	Presentation and Q&A
9/7/2021	Many Farms Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/7/2021	Nenahnezad Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/8/2021	Tuba City Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/8/2021	Baca Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/8/2021	WSR	Colorado Parks and Wildlife	100	Meeting on the Ranching for Wildlife Program, and submission of damage elk applications.
9/9/2021	Alamo, NM	Animal Control General Info and Unwanted Pet Day	50+	Information on spay/neutering, Animal Control laws, etc.
9/10/2021	Whippoorwill/ Cottonwood Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/13/2021	Tsaile Dine College ENG 101 9:00 AM	CAPNN	8	Presentation and Q&A
9/13/2021	Tsaile Dine College ENG 101 12:00 PM	CAPNN	15	Presentation and Q&A

9/13/2021	Tsaile Dine College ENG 102 3:00 PM	CAPNN	Unknown # of Attendees	Video Presentation
9/13/2021	Round Rock Chapter	Drought Resolution	8	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/13/2021	Black Mesa Chapter	Drought Resolution	20	Resolution Presentation and Q&A, Passed
9/13/2021	Westcliffe, CO	Custer County Emergency	300	County considers the Navajo Nation as stakeholders in the
		Management		development of the
		Meeting		Emergency plan. Potential
				funding is available.
9/14/2021	Tsaile Dine College ENG 102 (Blackboard)	CAPNN	Unknown # of Attendees	Presentation and Q&A
9/14/2021	Upper Fruitland Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/15/2021	Church Rock Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/16/2021	Aneth Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/16/2021	Shiprock Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/16/2021	Kaibeto Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/17/2021	Walsenburg, CO	NRCS Meeting	15	Discussions held with the
				District Conservationist on
				plans for weed management,
				mastication project, ranch
				planning; range and forage production.
9/20/2021	WSR	NRCS Meeting	10	Initial meeting with NRCS,
				Forester, on the mastication
				project for the forested
				areas.
9/20/2021	Greasewood Springs Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/21/2021	Chilchinbeto Chapter	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of Callers	Resolution Presentation and Q&A
9/22/2021	Mexican Hat, UT, Disposal Site	CAPNN	Unknown # of Attendees	Presentation and Q&A
9/24/2021	White Rock Joint Eastern Land Board Mtg	Drought Resolution	Unknown # of attendees	Resolution Presentation and Q&A

9/27/2021	Lockes Chanter	Drought Posalution	Unknown # of	Resolution Presentation and
9/2//2021	Lechee Chapter	Drought Resolution	Callers	Q&A

### **Department of Resource Enforcement**

Date			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
(MM/DD/YYYY)	Location	<b>Event Name</b>	Reached	(Brief Summary)
07/27/2021	Window	Presentation to	50	Provided presentation to
	Rock, AZ	Grazing Officials –		incoming Grazing Officials and
		Ft. Defiance		answered questions regarding
		Agency		livestock and land issues.
08/11/2021	Gallup, NM	Meeting with	60	Provided presentation on
		Eastern Land		Resource Enforcement and
		Board		listened to concerns from
				Eastern Land Board Members.
				Listened to Presentation from
				NPD Crownpoint District
				regarding request for service
				and collaboration on meeting
				the needs of the public.

### **Department of Parks and Recreation**

Date			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
(MM/DD/YYYY)	Location	Event Name	Reached	(Brief Summary)
July 2021	Antelope	Miss Navajo	15	Miss Navajo came to the
	Canyon	Nation visit		canyon with Navajo Tourism to
				develop promotional video and
				photographs to promote NN.
August 2021	Monument	MV Marathon	250	The running event to place
	Valley			with over 200 participants.
September	Window	Code Talker 10k	200+	The event took place with over
2021	Rock			200 participants and all
				following health guidelines.
August 2021	Teec Nos	Food delivery	100	Distribution of food to the
	Pos Senior			senior citizens
	Center			
July 2021	Four Corners	Community fun	50	End of 100 miles virtual run
	Monument	walk		and fun walk on site
August 2021	Monument	Welcome Back	50	Giving out school supplies,
	Valley Park	Event		entertainment, bike repairs

September	Monument	Arizona Sheriff's	12	Ride from visitor center to John	
2021	Valley Park	Association trail		Ford Point, about 5 miles. Also	
		ride		use of facilities for meetings	
August 202	Asaayi to	Bike race	50	Bikers went from south	
	Narbona			entrance of Bowl Canyon to	
	Park			Narbona Pass campground	

### **Navajo AML Reclamation Department**

Date			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
	Location	<b>Event Name</b>	Reached	
07/06/2021	Coyote Canyon	DNR – Water	6	Site tour with Water Resources
		Resources		Director to AML drainage stabilize and
		Partnership		retention projects.
07/12/2021 to	Western, Southern,	Navajo Nation	35	Huerfano, Councilor, Pueblo Pintado,
07/16/2021	Central, Northern	RDC drought Tour		Whitehorse Lake, and Crownpoint,
	and Eastern Agency			and Dalton Hanna, drought
				evaluations.
				The Committee understood the value
				of surface water management, which
				NAMLRD demonstrated to them.
07/27/2021	Many Farms	Diversion Dam	20	Diversion Dam and stream
and		site assessment		assessment. Recommend further NN
09/13/2021				and Stakeholder meetings. Attendees
				from Navajo Water Resources and
				Agricultural Departments.
09/13-	Virtual	NAAMLP	> 350	Participated in the Annual AML
15/2021		Conference	participants	conference: presentations, business
				meetings, partnerships and awards.
09/03/2021	Washington, D.C.	SMCRA	27 Senators	Sent the Navajo Nation OPVP support
		Reauthorization	48	letter about the Reauthorization of
			Representatives	SMCRA to legislatures.
09/21-	Halchita/Mexican	Door-to-door	~50 residence	Outreach work to inform Halchita
22/2021	Hat, Utah	outreach with		community of the upcoming aerial
		DOE-LM		survey at the cell site.

### Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Issued 5 CWA Section 401 Certifications (UDOT McElmo Creek bridge, UDOT SR 162, Apache County C419, BIA N6932, NTUA Tohatchi Gas Line) and approved 5 emergency certifications (Apache County C423, Apache County C323, BIA N6134, BIA N6, and BIA N9452)
- 2. RCRP: 1) Preparation for anticipated ASU and ADEQ Recycling Feasibility Study for Northeastern Arizona in PArtnership with the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe using USDA grant funding, 2) Local Chapter Ordinance Regulatory Development for Household Solid Waste (Chinle Chapter).
- 3. LSTP/STP: Storage Tank Program conducted several meetings with Craig Callaway of Red Mesa Trading Company and Ross Kinnemer of BioTech Remediation regarding the confirmed release at NAV 209 Speepsprings Express #511 located at Sheep Springs, NM. In addition, to ensure they comply with the NNSTA when it comes to clean up mitigations.
- 4. Twenty-two "No Further Action" letters were delivered to residents across the Navajo Nation identifying their homes were safe for occupation. Seven individuals were not home but were left messages that letters identifying the status of their homes would be provided to them in a timely manner.
- 5. NNEPA continues to review and approve 164 review projects via the GLDD prism system.
- 6. Completed a Christmas Angel Program with the St. Michaels Association for Special Education. The program allowed for 13 presents to be delivered to the St. Michaels Association for Special Education students.
- 7. NNEPA Superfund in coordination with US EPA have completed a Navajo Specific Risk Assessment tool for the 523 Abandoned Uranium Mines on the Navajo Nation.
- 8. Working with the Regulatory Review team to complete the One-Stop-Shop idea for ARPA projects.

### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. Severe delays in getting Receiving Records processed by Purchasing Department. This could impact contract with Tetra Tech on San Juan River (SJR) fish tissue project and joint funding agreement with USGA on a metal source tracking study of the SJR watershed.
- 2. WRCD: Fullfilling the vacant positions have been a challenge. There have been little to no applications received for vacant positions. The vacant positions will continue to be

- advertised on the NNDPM website. The vacant positions may be advertised in the local newspapers.
- 3. RCRP: The 164 Review has been a challenge to the New Mexico RAID Grant Professional Service Contract. The contract was submitted to NNOPVP on October 26, 2021 and did not get executed due to insurance. The Risk Management Program did review it and determined it to be insufficient. The vendor was working with their insurance provider to obtain a copy for two months to provide a Certificate of Indurance. On December 29, 2021 the vendor was able to provide a COI and the Risk Management Program deemed it to be sufficient. The contract can be executed and the work can begin. We are waiting on the OPVP to sign the contract. The RAID Grant has a deadline of April 27, 2022.
- 4. Need for Health and Safety & Health Monitoring plan for all Navajo EPA.
- **5.** Including Natural Resources Trustees to the Natural Resource Damages project. The Natural Resource Damages assessment is part of the Trust agreements.

### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date:			Number(s)	Type of Activities & Outcome
(MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Reached:	(Brief Summary)
12/31/2021	Navajo Area	Illegal Dumping Compliant Forms, Notice of voilations, Civil Orders, Inspections, Technical	107	Outreach as the Resource Conservation & Recovery Program are conducting inspections, delivering NOVs, and virtual presentations.
		Advisement, grants, and Outreach		
10/16/2021	Pinedale, NM	Red Water Pond Road Assiciation Meeting	30	President Nex reiterested the support of the Navajo Nation in the efforts being put forth by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a draft Environmental Impact Statement.
10/21/21	Tachee/Blue Gap	Tachee/ Blue Gap Information Meeting	20	Discuss AUM work and provided the community an overview from all parties.
11/10/2021	Western Informationa I Meeting	Cameron Information Chapter Meeting	20	AUM Western information mtg three PRPs gave presentations on AUM sites in the Western Navajo Agency for several hours. NNEPA presented on Frundamental Law & Risk Assessment

Fund Type: General,		100 Sept. Marc	2000 10 0000	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	221 547 37 38			Current Budget
External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Vacancies
General Funds	NNEPA Admin	10/01/21-09/30/22	336,191	439,851.85	293,940.24	67%	3	0
General Funds	Air & Toxics Dept	10/01/21-09/30/22	112,680	112,680	92,088.7	82%	2	0
General Funds	Surf & Grndwtr Dpt	10/01/21-09/30/22	218,781	218,781	203,938.87	93%	2	0
General Funds	Waste Reg Dept	10/01/21-09/30/22	107,205	107,205	87,348,67	81%	1	0
General Funds	Resource & Rec	10/01/21-09/30/22	349,327	349,327	314,034.8	90%	3	0
General Funds	Criminal Enfremt	10/01/21-09/30/22	300,297	300,297	299,171.28	100%	3	3
General Funds	Radon Program	10/01/21-09/30/22	37,974	37,974	31,412.36	83%	1	0
Special Revenue	Leaking Undrgrnd	10/01/21-09/30/22	400,000	476,759	400,000	84%	0	0
Special Revenue	Undrgrnd Storage	10/01/21-09/30/22	280,000	281,710	267,887.72	95%	5	1
Special Revenue	Undrgrnd Injection	10/01/21-09/30/22	300,000	300,000	296,362.34	99%	3	2
Special Revenue	Air Quality OPP	10/01/21-09/30/22	937,390	983,398.19	837,130.01	85%	10	2
Special Revenue	Public Water	10/01/21-09/30/22	300,000	311,372.21	260,945.3	84%	4	1
Special Revenue	Water Q/Clean Wtr	10/01/21-09/30/22	16,004	16,004	16,004	100%	0	0
Special Revenue	Haz Substance	10/01/21-09/30/22	1,500,000	2,294,849.31	1,280,156.02	56%	14	1
External US EPA	Public Water SS	10/01/20-09/30/22	599,000	599,000	541,763.75	90%	8	4
External US EPA	Drinking Water	10/01/19-09/30/22	125,000	375,000	318,635.72	85%	- 3	1
External US EPA	UIC	10/01/21-09/30/22	119,273	119,273	119,273	100%	1	0
External US EPA	Water Quality	10/01/15-09/30/22	950,000	4,770,000	130,367.88	3%	7	0
External US EPA	WQ/Multi-Purpose	10/01/20-09/30/22	145,815	145,815	-19,639.41	-13%	1	0
External US EPA	WQ CWA 103/319	10/01/20-09/30/22	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,032,702.35	98%	7	0
External US EPA	WQ 319 Base/Comp	10/01/20-09/30/22	118,766	118,766	118,766	100%	0	0
External US EPA	WQ CWA 319 Comp(1)	10/01/20-09/30/22	100,000	100,000	100,000	100%	0	0
External US EPA	WQ CWA 319 Comp(2)	10/01/20-09/30/22	100,000	100,000	100,000	100%	0	0
External US EPA	Water Pollution Control	03/01/18-09/30/22	366,500	2,916,500	867,740.62	30%	0	0
External US EPA	WQ WIIN Act CWA106	10/01/21-09/30/22	120,000	120,000	120,000	100%	0	0
External US EPA	Pesticides	10/01/21-09/30/22	278,956	278,956	278,956	100%	3	1
External US EPA	Indoor Radon	10/01/21-09/30/22	90,000	90,000	90,000	100%	1	0
External US EPA	Air Quality	10/01/19-09/30/22	291,000	528,600	326,068.19	62%	4	2
External US EPA	AQ/Cove Study	12/18/18-12/31/22	89,260	89,260	51,694.35	58%	1	0
External US EPA	UST Prevention	10/01/19-09/30/22	250,000	500,000	267,173.43	53%	4	0
External US EPA	LUST Corrective Act	10/01/19-09/30/22	292,855	485,968	313,340.32	64%	3	0
External US EPA	LUST Enforcement	10/01/19-09/30/22	57,126	114,013	10,686.35	9%	1	0
External Settlement	Painted Desert	07/01/19-09/30/22	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,273,172.04	64%	0	0
External US EPA	SACA - CSP	10/01/16-09/30/22	158,328	415,775	153,897.7	37%	11	1
External US EPA	A128 State & Tribal	10/01/21-09/30/22	150,000	150,000	150,000	100%	3	0
External US EPA	MSCA-Tronox Quiv	10/01/18-09/30/22	25,017	34,493	29,715.74	86%	10	1
External US EPA	MSCA-Tronox Sec32	10/01/18-09/30/22	9,831	27,909	19,579.23	70%	9	1
External US EPA	MSCA-Tronox CoveAUN	AS)/01/18-09/30/22	23,682	73,989	29,050.1	39%	9	1
External US EPA	MSCA-Tronox CoveH20		20,151	23,522	19,023.95	81%	8	0
External US EPA	MSCA-Tronox CoveCSN		6,871	10,655	8,375.01	79%	5	0
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP El Paso	10/01/18-09/30/22	39,523	39,523	26,040.94	66%	9	1
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP EnPro	10/01/18-09/30/22	23,437	23,437	14,927.83	64%	8	1
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP Sec 9	10/01/18-09/30/22	16,472	16,472	13,021.33	79%	8	1
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP Ruby Mine	10/01/18-09/30/22	18,404	18,404	7,153.58	39%	7	1
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP Mac/Blk Jk	10/01/18-09/30/22	19,227	19,227	12,624.21	66%	10	1
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP MarianoL	10/01/18-09/30/22	21,003	21,003	9,110.87	43%	10	1
External US EPA	MSCA-PRP NE ChurchR		16,451	16,451	7,864.34	48%	9	0
External US EPA	MSCA-Haystack	10/01/18-09/30/22	15,733	15,733	8,297.99	53%	7	0
External US EPA	R6 -Prewitt Site	10/01/20-09/30/22	7,686	7,686	7,686	100%	6	0
External US EPA	R6 - UNC Site	10/01/20-09/30/21	15,279	15,279	15,279	100%	5	0
External US EPA	Superfund Core	10/01/20-09/30/22	500,000	500,000	500,000	100%	14	1
External NM State	NMED RAID	04/07/21-04/30/22	170,000	170,000	170,000	100%	0	0
External Settlement	Orpan Mine Sites	10/01/17-12/31/24	400,000	400,000	326,334.42	82%	0	0
External US Treasury	ARPA	03/01/21-12/31/26	8,093,953	8,093,953	8,093,953	100%	5	5
		Grand Total:	22,090,448	30,824,870.56	20,343,056.14	66%	243	29
U.I - U U U								
**NOTE: Total number o	staff within Navajo Natio	on EPA currently at 54 ind	viduals. Majority of posi	ions are Cost-Shared with	General Funds, Special R	evenue and External.		
Those are currently 15 et	ff mambare within the Su	perfund Program: They ar	all cost shared beginning	with twenty (20) account				

# Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

## WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.5 GHZ EBS Spectrum. NNTRC has been working on being awarded the 2.5 GHz spectrum since 2019. The goal and the reason it took so long to receive the spectrum was due to the boundaries that were produced from the FCC and BIA. We know there are many checkerboard territories in that region and our justification as we have "Local Presence" there based on the chapter boundaries. with the help of Land Department, Mike Halona and his team were able to help us justify contiguous coverage for this spectrum. The goal is to utilize this spectrum for fixed wireless internet to the homes. we understand the challenges with right of ways within the Navjo Natino especially for other land status' besides trust. This spectrum was awarded back in December of 2021. This is a huge accomplishment and could not have been done without the support of our NNTRC Commissioners, Jim Dunstan with Mobius Legal, Harrison Rice with NNDOJ, and finally Mike Halona with his team from Land Department. We look forward to the rapid deployment as this is the fastest way to deploy internet which can reach broadband speed which is currently define as 25 Megabits down and 3 Megabits up.

#### **CHALLENGES**

Right of Ways is the current challenge to rapidly deploy fiber for the E-Rate Project and other fiber related projects.

### Navajo Nation Veterans Administration

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1. Model home construction was completed.
- 2. First veterans home is nearing completion.

### **CHALLENGES**

 Challenges going forward remain the availability of sufficient funding to build enough homes to meet the need for housing. Current funding is limited to a 2% set-aside of the Navajo Nation revenues each fiscal year. Inclusion into the IHP for future years, and subsequent approval by HUD, will permit the approval of sub-recipient agreements between the NNVA and NHA (or the TDHE). ARPA has the potential to provide a significant amount of funding to address the veterans housing needs.

### Navajo Nation Washington Office

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

### MAJOR CHALLENGES

- 1. Tribal Leaders Summit On November 15 and 16, 2021 the Biden Administration resumed meetings with tribal leaders, re-establishing the Tribal Leaders Summit. The virtual event attracted over 30 tribal leaders. In addition to drafting comments for NN President Jonathan Nez, NNWO supported President and First Lady Nez in participating in a panel discussion with DOI Secretary Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary Indian Affairs Bryan Newland to talk about about the COVID-19 pandemic on the Navajo Nation and opportunities to change federal policies to help advance infrastructure improvements for water, electricity, broadband, roads, housing, and a new Executive Order to support missing persons initiatives. The Navajo Nation Washington Office worked with the White House to accommodate President Nez's presence at the signing of the Biden Administration's Infrastructure Package which President Nez had strongly advocated for. NNWO coordinated a dinner with Assistant Secetary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland, a meeting with leadership of the Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women, a meeting with Indian Health Service, and other high-level meetings.
- 2. Boarding School Initiative In June of 2021 Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Deb Haaland, in response to the discovery of hundreds of remains of indigenous children that perished while at federal boarding schools in Canada and the US, directed the Department to prepare a report detailing available historical records, emphasizing, but not limited to cemeteries or potential burial sites, relating to the federal boarding school program in preparation for future site work. This Initiative is important as it aims to address the inter-generational impact of Indian boarding schools and will shed light on the traumas of the past. As part of the feedback the Department requested from tribes, NNWO attended Tribal Consultations on the Initiative and worked with the Navajo Nation Department of of Diné Education, Navajo Nation Division of Social Services, and Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department to draft and finalize written testimony in the form of a Dear Tribal Letter for OPVP's signature. The Navajo Nation's engagement in consultations will help the Department best determine how to use this information to protect burial sites and respect families and communities.
- 3. RECA legislation: H.R. 5338 was introduced by Rep. Leger de Fernandez (D-NM). On the Senate side, S. 2798 was introduced by Sen. Lujan (D-NM) and Sen. Crapo (R-ID) in September of 2021. Highlights of the new legislation included extending the Trust Fund from July 10, 2022 to approximately 2040 (19 years), adding renal cancer and any chronic renal disease as covered diseases, establishing a \$9 million grant-based epidemiological study on the impact of uranium milling and mining on non-occupationally exposed individuals (such as family members), allowing for combined work histories, expanded of use of affidavits, and addition of core drillers to covered occupations. The new legislation

does not raise the compensation cap for miners and other uranium workers; only for certain atmospheric testing individuals. In support of the new legislation, NNWO worked with consultants Hobbs, Strauss, Dean, and Walker to advocate for Navajo preferances and to continue to seek other co-sponsors and conduct outreach relevant to this bill. The result was a significant increase in House of Representative Sponsors to include: Burgess Owens (R-UT), James McGovern (D-MA), Juan Vargas (D-CA), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Steven Horsford (D-NV), Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ), Dina Titus (D-NV), Greg Stanton (D-AZ), Barbara Lee (D-CA), Susan Wild (D-PA), Susan DelBene (D-WA), Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Yvette Herrell (R-NM), Michael San Nicholas (D-GU), Derek Kilmer (R-ID), Russ Fulcher (R-ID), Kaiali' Kahele (D -HI), Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Rashida Tlaib D-MI), Jared Huffman (D-CA), Steve Cohen (D-TN), Pau Tonko (D-NY), Chris Stewart (R-UT), Melanie Ann Stansbury (D-NM), Andre Carson (D-IN), Raul Grijalva (D-AZ), Katie Porter (D-CA), Randy Weber (R-TX), Jason Crow (D-CO), Blake Moore (D-URT), Ruben Galleo (D-AZ), Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Mark Pocan ((D-WI), Nikema Williams (D-GA), Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA), Lucy McBath (D-GA), G.K. Butterfield (D-NC), Jamie Raskin (D-MD), Karen Bass (D-CA), Ted Lieu (D-CA), Luis /correa (D-CA), Kurt Schrader (D-OR), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Mark Amodei (R-NV), Mark Amodei (R-NV), Joe Meguse (D-CO), Sara Jacobs (D-CA), Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Judy Chu (D-CA), Zoe Loffgren (D-CA), John Garamendi (D-CA), David Cicilline (D-RI), Madeleine Dean (D-PA), Deborah Ross (D-NC), Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), Henry John Jr. (D-GA), Mark Takano (D-CA), Ken Buck (R-CO), Yvette Clarke (D-NY), David Trone (D-MD). Senate Co-Sponsors include: John Tester (D-MT), Ben Lujan (D-NM), James Risch (R-ID), Jacklyn Rosen (D-NV), Cory Booker (D-NJ), Catherine Cortez Mastro (D-NV), Michael Bennet (D-CO), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Mark Kelly (D-AZ), Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), Raphael Warnock (D-GA).

- 4. Navajo Nation Embassy at 11 D St. SE As part of our ongoing efforts to bring our new headquarters online, NNWO has been working to address sanitary, safety, and infrastructure issues at the property. In the first Quarter of FY2022 the following progress has been made: Property tax of \$8,492.21 paid, prioritized listing of projects related to 11 D St. SE sent to Division of General Services, orders for desks, computers and related equipment and Navajo rugs and baskets (Navajo Nation Adopt a Native Elder Program) were completed. Painting and pressure washing of the exterior and interior was completed, extermination of pests was completed, and contracts were completed with cleaning and grounds keeping contractors. NNWO is currently working on finalizing contracts for the purchase of furniture, cubicles, carpeting, flooring, HVAC, and water heater replacement.
- 5. MMIW A high priority for OPVP, Council, and NNWO, during Quarter I the following activities have contributed to helping decrease the numbers of missing and murdered

indigenous people on the Navajo Nation and in Indian Country: Facilitating a meeting with FLONN and leadership from DOJ's Office of Violence Against Women Office, preparing written comments for Bureau of Justice Assistance Tribal Justice Program funding, attending Senate Committee on Indian Affairs meetings on violence in Indian Country, facilitating and coordinating the presence of President and First Lady Nez at a screening and panel discussion on MMIW hosted by Representative Greg Stanton (D-AZ) at Heard Museum, preparing talking points for President Nez for a meeting on MMIW and other issues with Representative Stanton. We've also followed up on composition and selection of candidates for the Not Invisible Act Commission.

### **CHALLENGES**

- Staffing NNWO is chronically understaffed. At present time we are in need of two (2)
  Government and Legislative Affairs and Associates and a Government and Legislative Affairs
  Communications Officer.
- 2. We are still dealing with issues pertaining to safety at 11 D St. SE (smoke extinguishers and fire/CO2 alarms, security systems, chimney cleaning and inspection, boiler issues). We also need to procure purchases/contracts on office furniture and accessories, a moving company, picture hanging, etc. We are also working with the City of DC on nuisance overgrowth from the next door neighbor.
- 3. Lease at 750 The Navajo Nation entered into a rental agreement with Cushman and Wakefield who manage our current space for owners American Psychological Association. The current lease expires at the end of December, 2022 and the Lease and Addendum of 2017 leave little room for negotiation for an early release. NNWO would like to vacate current space and relocate by the end of March, 2022. A letter requesting an early and non-punative exit has been crafted and we've punctuated the issues we've had with the flood that destroyed valuable equipment and artwork and a recent rent raise (allowed via the Lease, but still discretionary) as part of our reason to depart early. To date, we've been offered no flexibility, so we will be paying full (increased) rent until the end of the year unless a compromise can be reached.
- 4. Insurance While the Navajo Nation major medical insurance is adequate for offices located in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, we are very limited in DC and often find outselves having to go to out-of-network providers. Some providers have never heard of our insurance company and staff have had to pay out of pocket or go out of network. It would be helpful to find a way to give NNWO staff healthcare options that reflect our location.
- Salaries NNWO salaries, while appearing high by AZ, UT, and NM standards are woefully low for our region--we have one of the highest cost of living thresholds in the nation. Given our issues with recruiting and retaining staff, bringing our staff salaries up to industry standards (GAO

suggested salary charts offer good guidance) might encourage more recruits. As well, NNWO rank and file employees do not work under the same employment agreement as other NN staff. The At-Will distinction in itself is not an issue per se because our supervisor works to retain staff, but knowing that there is no formal process for grievance or termination is a deterent, particularly to those who would relocate from the NN or other areas close to the Nation who fear a loss of stability.

6. We are still challenged with an inability to extricate ourselves from the existing lease, which is over \$26,000 per month. We are also dealing with a neighbor who has allowed her lawn vegetation to invade our property making it impossible for us to complete exterior landscaping pursuant to DC law and assess other structural issues. We are still resolving issues with water and heat.

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
10/08/2021	White House	Bear Ears Signing Ceremony		President Nez invited to attend signing ceremony. NNWO prepared for his presence at the Ceremony.
10/11/2021	New York City	Indigenous Peoples Day Event		Navajo Nation Washington Office Director gave a well-received presentation with staff at the Indigenous Peoples' day event at Randall's Island Park in NYC in October.
10/27/2021	Virtual	Nation-to- Nation Tribal Dialogue on COVID 19		Prepare President Nez to participate and moderate Tribal Leader Discussion on Infrastructure.
11/15/2021	White House	Signing of Infrastructure bill.		Assist with visit to White House for President Nez's attendance.
11/18/2021	Navajo Nation	Special Division Directors Meeting		Prepared PowerPoint Presentation regarding ARPA, Treasury Programs, and Infrastructure Bill and delivered Update

### Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office

# WINTER COUNCIL SESSION 2022

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### **Navajo Thaw Regional Recovery Plan**

To develop and implement ten Chapter Recovery Plans and one Navajo Thaw Regional Plan to address the impacts of the Bennett Freeze and Forced Relocation. The Community and Economic Development Plans will create a sustainable economic future while providing funding for priority housing, economic development, community development and infrastructure projects.

The activities being performed by the Native Builders Team for the Navajo Hopi Land Commission Office (NHLCO) can be categorized three ways: 1) Ten Chapter Recovery Plans, 2) the Navajo Thaw Regional Recovery Plan, and 3) Implementation of all Planning Activities.

Making the Case for \$4 Billion (the figured arrived at based on WH Pacific Study). The Native Builders Team continues to work with the 9 FBFA Chapters in different areas, Including, the initiative to seek grants to supplement the Navajo Thaw project. Cameron Envision is continuing to reinvigorate the parties involved in order to complete the objectives of the Grant (Economic Development).

CHOICE Humanitarian Organization is partnering with NHLCO and FBFA Chapters to assist with the administration of the Escrow Funds (recipient of \$250,000 USDA Grant).

Native Builders Team is continuing to seek supplemental funds to contribute to the Navajo Thaw Initiative by applying for US Grants (NHH Grant Application – not funded).

Created the Native Promises LLC (Non-Profit) to seek ARPA funding for FBFA Chapters. Primarily to address the Housing conditions. This entity is in the beginning stages of activities.

Native Promise Board Members: Lorenzo Max, Franklin Fowler, Stanley Robbins.

Congressman Tom O'Halleran staff are waiting for Navajo Thaw to evolve and to submit legislation by the early part of this year (2022).

### Navajo Thaw – Building Communities

- Completion of Business Assistance to Navajo Entrepreneurs (BANE) Project resulting in posting nine business development videos on the navajothaw.com website: 1) Coconino County Community Economic Development, 2) Land Withdrawal for Business Development, 3) The Western Navajo PipelineProject, 4) Doing Business on the Navajo Nation, 5) Dineh Jewelry: Find Your Voice, 6) Coconino County Small Business Resources, 7) The Navajo Thaw: Goals and Activities, 8) Eight Elements of a Good Business Plan, and 9) How to Start a Business on the Navajo Nation.
- 2. Continued outreach on the Navajo Thaw Constant Contact blast informing over

800 recipients of Navajo Thaw progress

- 3. Continued briefing of members of Congress, their staff and others on the Navajo Thaw Plan andfunding request.
- 4. Approval of USDA Rural Development Grant of \$250,000 from the Rural Community DevelopmentInitiatives (RCDI) program to assist with Chapter Capacity and Housing Escrow Fund Utilization.
- 5. In-person Get Acquainted Gathering in Cameron for the Envision Cameron Project.

### **Ten Chapter Recovery Plans:**

All the work to complete the ten Navajo Thaw Chapter Recovery Plans was completed prior to October 1, 2020. Each of the plans, however, remain "open" to additional feedback and input by Chapter Officials and Chapter Steering Committee Members. The status for each of the Chapter Recovery Plans and the efforts by the Chapters are summarized in the dashboard below.

### Navajo Thaw Project Dashboard

	Feedback Submission	Plan Steering Adoption Committee		Navajo Roundtable	Priority Project	
Bodaway Gap	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	
Cameron	In Progress	In Progress	Complete	In Progress	Complete	
Coalmine Canyon	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Pending	
Coppermine	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	
Kaibeto	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	
Leupp	In Progress	In Progress	Complete	In Progress	In Progress	
Tolani Lake	In Progress	In Progress	Complete	Complete	Pending	
Tonalea (Red Lake)	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	
Tuba City	Pending	Pending	Pending	Pending	Pending	
Nahata Dziil	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	

The Navajo Thaw Support Team conducted Orientation Sessions for all of the Chapters so that

new Chapter Officials are familiar with their plans; plan feedback has been solicited.

### **REGIONAL RECOVERY PLAN**

The Navajo Thaw Regional Recovery Plan was completed in the summer of 2020 and is poised for implementation. The plan calls for a \$4 billion investment in three phases over ten years to address the Bennett Freeze and Forced Relocation eras of Navajo Nation/US history.

The Regional Recovery Plan is posted on the <a href="www.navajothaw.com">www.navajothaw.com</a> website and is available for review and download. In addition, the plan has been presented to Navajo Nation Officials as well as Members of Congress and/or their representatives.

Phase One of the Recovery Plan calls for a \$200 million investment over 2021-2022. The Support Team is formulating a Fund Management Proposal for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for Phase One.

The Navajo Hopi Land Commission (NHLC) unanimously approved two resolutions associated with the Navajo Thaw Regional Recovery Plan. The first resolution supported projects in the Former Bennett Freeze Area. The second resolution supported projects at Nahata Dziil.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL PLANS**

Implementation of the Regional Plan and the ten Chapter Recovery Plans is underway.

The Navajo Thaw Support Team is asking each of the ten participating Chapters to pass a resolution to identify a project for implementation. Although the pandemic has disrupted such Chapter-based decision making for most of the Chapters, the Support Team has been able to identify projects for implementation through grant writing and project advocacy. A summary of projects and efforts underway is provided below.

### **Tolani Lake Enterprises (TLE) Covid Relief Project**

The Navajo Thaw Support Team collaborated with TLE and local advocates for food and water security to secure \$3.46 million from the Navajo CARES Act Fund for the development of:

- 1) 10 wells that have been completed serving four Navajo Thaw Chapters,
- 2) 94 water catchment systems have been installed in 29 communities,
- 3) 232 water filtration systems have been provided to families in 31 communities,
- 4) six Hoop Houses have been built to distribute food to families in need across the region,
- 5) five water delivery trucks have been purchased to deliver water to remote, and
- 6) comprehensive drinking water analysis has been conducted for 16 identified water sources.

The project has been a significant success, and a request is being made to the Nez-Lizer Administration and the Navajo Nation Council to extend this project into 2021 given that Congress has extended the CARES Act funding. The continuation of these projects is being positioned for ARPA funding as well.

### Business Assistance for Navajo Entrepreneurs (BANE) Project

The Navajo Thaw Support Team successfully applied for a \$150,000 USDA Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) grant in collaboration with Moonshot at NACET. This project is assisting Navajo businesses and entrepreneurs with business planning and entrepreneurial support services. Given the impacts of the pandemic, the first phase of the project is to create a videotaped curriculum of programming.

Navajo Thaw – Building Communities Completion of Business Assistance to Navajo Entrepreneurs (BANE) Project resulting in posting nine business development videos on the navajothaw.com website: 1) Coconino County Community Economic Development, 2) Land Withdrawal for Business Development, 3) The Western Navajo PipelineProject, 4) Doing Business on the Navajo Nation, 5) Dineh Jewelry: Find Your Voice, 6) Coconino County Small Business Resources, 7) The Navajo Thaw: Goals and Activities, 8) Eight Elements of a Good Business Plan, and 9) How to Start a Business on the Navajo Nation.

### **Envision Cameron Project**

The Navajo Thaw Support Team successfully applied for a \$215,000 federal grant award through USDA Rural Development to establish the Envision Cameron project. This project consists of placemaking and planning activities to create a vision for the future of Cameron extending through 2070. A major focus for Cameron will be the planning and development for new housing in the immediate term. The project builds upon some of the planning expertise completed on the Navajo Nation by Swaback Partners, an architectural and placemaking firm. **CHOICE Humanitarian Relief Effort** 

On November 09, we met with CHOICE Humanitarian CEO Mr. Steven Pierce and all Former Bennett Freeze Chapter members and Officials to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

CHOICE Humanitarian, an international non-profit, has teamed up with the Navajo Thaw to deliver food and household supplies directly to the doors of the people in the Navajo Thaw Region—all 10 Chapters. They see this as the first of a long-term commitment to bring Relief/Resiliency/Enterprise to the region. The Navajo Thaw has invited CHOICE Humanitarian to plan a significant administrative and outreach role for the continued implementation of the Regional Recovery Plan.

### An Update on Native Builders LLC

With the passing of Thomas Tso on January 22, 2021, NHLCO has terminated Native Builders LLC contract, and since then has issued a sole-source contract with Building Communities, Inc, and a new contract (Contract No.: CO15045) has been issued between the Navajo Nation and Building Communities, Inc.

### **New Chapter Officials Highly Engaged with Navajo Thaw**

The Navajo Thaw Support Team has been very pleased with the engagement of new Chapter Officials throughout the Navajo Thaw Region. While new Chapter Officials are learning the basics of Chapter operations, they are finding that the Navajo Thaw serves to provide additional capacity for their top community and economic development priorities.

The Navajo Thaw coordinated the Navajo Thaw President's Huddle that brought together representatives of nine of the ten Chapters over the weekend of May 15 and May 16 in Flagstaff. The result was listening to Chapter Officials, especially related to the forthcoming ARPA Fund Management Plan.

### Navajo Thaw Technical Team

The purpose of the Technical Team is to provide the technical capacity so that the plans developed by our contractor, Native Builders LLC, would be implemented. In January/February of 2020, once again the NHLCO was informed by NHA that "the purpose of these funds managed by NHA is for the Navajo Thaw."

The funds now managed by NHA were transferred to NHLCO several years ago but then were transferred back to NHA. NHLCO is now ready for the utilization of these funds, and *the NHLCO is requesting that the original transfer from NHA be re-established* so funding can be utilized for the Navajo Thaw project as agreed upon.

### **ARPA Request**

The Navajo Thaw is collaborating with the NHLCO to develop a Fund Management Proposal for ARPA funding. The focus will be on new housing and improved telecommunications capacity throughout the Former Bennett Freeze area portion of the Navajo Thaw Region. In addition, efforts to support infrastructure development associated with the Pinta Project at Nahata Dziil is a priority.

NHLCO is seeking an allocation for Housing in the NPL, HPL and FBFA regions.

### 2. Bisti Solar Project:

NEXTERA, NHLCO and President Nez met in Tempe to receive updates on this project along with the LeChee Chapter and Navajo Transmission Project. NEXTERA submitted another RPF to seek a PPA with PNM and now is looking to receiving more documents from Navajo Nation to lock in the PPA amount submitted to PNM with the latest RFP. NEXTERA recommends Tax Waivers

and Navajo Entity to become the majority owner when the Utility Scale Solar Field is completed.

Developer NEXTERA submitted the next RFP to PNM on July 2, 2021. Unfortunately, NEXTERA did not make the short-list selection the second time. Therefore, the NHLCO and NEXTERA are looking at other options to proceed with this project. This includes seeking another customer to go into a purchase of power agreement. The lease agreement with the Navajo Land Department (NLD) continues.

#### 3. Technical Amendments:

NHLCO is waiting on the scheduling of a Washington DC trip by NHLC to lobby on this House Bill. HB-6141.

The effort to advance the Navajo Technical Amendments Act (NTAA) predates the development and activities of the Navajo Thaw. With the Navajo Thaw Regional Recovery Plan calling for:

• \$4 billion, ten-year, three-phased investment in the Navajo Thaw Region and the Repurposing of ONHIR, it is timely to support the proposed language to help implement the Regional Plan.

### 4. De-selection and Re-selection of BLM Lands:

Navajo Land Department is charged with verifying the acreage surveyed by BLM to initiated the process to Re-Select land.

- Public Law 116-9 John Dingell, Jr., Conservation Management, and Recreation Act was signed into law on March 12, 2019 which cancelled (de-selected) 4234 +/- GIS Acres of land within the Paragon Ranch area of San Juan County in New Mexico.
- This ACT cancelled (de-selected) lands that were selected by the Navajo Nation to be conveyed to Trust status under the Navajo and Hopi Land Settlement Act of 1974, as amended.
- The de-selected lands were selected but never conveyed to Trust because they were cover by Preference Right Land Applications (PRLAs).
- The Navajo Nation has seven (7) years after the enactment of this Act, no later than March 11, 2026, to re-select lands.
- BLM would like the Navajo Nation to agree on the acreage before initiating the appraisal
  of the cancelled (de-selected) lands. The re-selection of lands will be value for value
  based on the appraisal. Deselection/Reselection of Lands
   NHLCO met with Navajo Land Department to review acreages calculated by BLM. Navajo

- Nation needs to agree with the acreage and inform BLM. BLM will then advertise for an appraisal of deselected lands. Navajo Nation will reselect lands based on value for value.
- NHLCO met with Navajo Land Department and waits for concurrence to the deselected acreages.

### 5. Escrow Funds of Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA Chapters)

NHLCO is partnering up with CHOICE Humanitarian and Native Builders Teams to assist the (9)-nine Bennett Freeze Area Chapters with the administration of the Escrow Funds to assist in identifying clients in need. Native Builders along with CHOICE Humanitarian submitted a grant application which was selected and awarded \$250,000 and with a \$250,000 Cash match by CHOICE. This initiative is now in motion with several FBFA Chapters.

Currently, NN DOJ has reviewed the MOA and made recommendations that will enable this initiative to be implemented on the Navajo Nation. CHOICE Humanitarian is a Non-Profit Entity which has been involved in addressing the issues afflicting the FBFA.

The MOA differ in that, there's one for LGA Certified Chapters and one for Non-Governance Certified Chapters. Two LGA Certified Chapters MOA were signed. One for Luepp Chapter and one for Bodaway/Gap Chapter by the Chapter Officials.

Currently, NN DOJ is reviewing the draft MOA for Non-Governance-Certified Chapters. Using Cameron Chapter as the template, NN DOJ is near finalizing a draft for both Non LGA Certified Chapters and LGA Governance-Certified Chapters.

NHLC Chair Otto Tso is questioning the criteria being used to release the Escrow Funds to FBFA Chapters. The NHLC Chair questions the legitimacy of the criteria which was put in place by the Former NHLCO Executive Director.

NHLCO Staff are providing a response to Chair Otto Tso, which will weigh on the responsibilities of the chapters for the Escrow Funds.

NHLCO staff met with Tonalea Chapter on January 5, 2021 regarding the MOA with CHOICE and will be scheduling a meeting with Cameron Chapter Officials and Staff shortly thereafter.

- NHLCO Staff completed fourth round of FBFA Chapters orientation for the new chapter officials and staff. Eight of the nine chapters have been orientated.
- Currently, Coalmine Canyon, Kaibeto, Tonalea, and To Naness Dizi, have Managers and/or CSCs. Leupp, Tolani Lake, Cameron, Bodaway/Gap and Coppermine have no Managers and/or CSCs, which makes expending escrow funds more challenging.
- NHLCO has renewed and revised the expired Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from September 2020.
- CHOICE Humanitarian is a new partner with NHLCO in expediting the escrow funds which
  includes the renovation, repairs of homes for selected FBFA residents. CHOICE was
  awarded a USDA grant of \$250,000.00 and CHOICE's match of \$250,000.00.

The Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office are going into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with CHOICE Humaniterian and all (9)-nine Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA) Chapters. CHOICE Humaiterian will be providing and assisting construction related activities.

### 6. Navajo Rehabilitation Trust Fund

NHLCO staff is finalizing the balances for each Business Unit Number; Memos have been sent out to NN DCD, OMB and OOC staff for verify the balances and the project status for this fund.

- Resolutions were prepared by NHLCO and submitted to Office of Legislative Counsel for decision on discrepancies to address the NRTF balances. This is to eliminate the negative balances, closing completed projects and preserving the project that are still active.
- NHLCO Staff is working with OMB to address the remaining balances in certain projects by memorandum and letters. Any action to be taken will also be relayed to the NHLC Chair and members.
- Based on recommendation by NN DOJ and outside legal counsel, Acquired Land lease fees paid by Preferred Sands will be deposited into NRTF accounts.

### 7. Hopi Partitioned Land

- NHLCO has been in communication with outside Counsel on issues relating to HPL residents. (1) HPL homesites needs to be reconfigured to accommodate houses that sits on Hopi land without a lease. (2) Clarify implementation of Accommodation Agreement to relinquish one homesite and reassign to a different homesite.
- NHLCO staff met with the Hopi Tribe on annual grazing permit allocation. The office will be submitting the annual allocation to the Hopi Tribe.

### 8. Dine' Relocatee Fund Administrative Rules and Procedures

Legislation for this fund is going through the process. The best-case scenario for this legislation is to be approve to assist numerous Relocatees who are in need of assistance for their homes. The Draft policy is still awaiting approval by the NHLC. Upon approval by the NHLC, a request for a drawdown and assignment of a business unit number will be initiated for disbursement.

### **CHALLENGES**

### 1. Bisti Solar Project

Needs a new Project Manager through the Division of Natural Resources.

- The Navajo Nation and NEXTERA needs to obtain another customer for a purchase of power agreement.
- 2. Technical Amendments
  - Initiate education and lobbying efforts in Washington, DC with the U.S. Congress and the White House.
- 3. De-selection and Re-selection of BLM Lands
  - Navajo Land Department has not reviewed of de-selected acres and to concur with BLM calculations.
- 4. Escrow Funds of Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA Chapters)
  - The capacity of FBFA chapters is limited; in terms of selecting clients and providing management plans in a timely manner.
  - Chapters lack funding to hire skilled-laborers; i.e., experienced carpenters
  - Procuring quotes for materials is a lengthy process.
  - Chapter officials and staff turnover, creates lack of consistency.
- 5. Navajo Rehabilitation Trust Fund
  - Reconciling NRTF balances with Office of the Controller by NHLCO staff.
- 6. Dine' Relocatee Fund Policy
  - Waiting on NHLC's approval of Policies and Procedures for the Dine' Relocatee Fund Policy.

Not all (9)-nine FBFA Chapters are deciding not to use CHOICE Humaiterians services.

### Navajo Thaw – Building Communities

- 1. Maintaining momentum despite the impact of the pandemic reducing and/or eliminating many in-person meetings.
- 2. Gaining full buy-in from Cameron CLUP on the Envision Cameron Project.
- 3. Determining the precise purposes and funding request from Navajo Nation ARPA FRF for Navajo Thawpriorities (see Section C below).
- 4. Messaging to Congress about the continued need for \$4 billion after Navajo Nation receives substantial CARES Act and ARPA funding.

### OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
October 01, 2021	Church Rock,			Church Rock Factory
	NM			Ground Breaking
October 07, 2021	NHLCO			Teleconference
				Meeting with Mr.
				Derrick Watchman
October 13, 2021	NHLCO			Zoom Meeting with US
				Senator Mrs. Kyrsten
				Senema, AZ, Staffer
				Mr. Chris Phalen
October 14, 2021	Fort Defiance,			Meeting with NNC
	AZ			Wilson Stewart Jr and
				LDA Mr. Timothy
				Begay RE: Jack Rabbit
				Development
October 15, 2021	Twin Arrows			Leadership Meeting
	Navajo Casino			with Executive Branch
	Resort			and NNC RE: Fiscal
				Recovery Funds

October 18, 2021	Teleconference	NNC Fall Session
November 02,	Teleconference	Meeting with OPVP
2021		Vice President Staffer
		Mrs. Sharon Yazzie and
		Tim Wolfe RE:ARPA
November 08,	Fort Defiance	Meeting with NN Vice-
2021	Chapter	President Mr. Myron
2021	Chapter	Lizer, NNC Delegate
		Mr. Wilson Stewart Jr.,
		and LDA Mr. Timothy
		Begay RE: Jack Rabbit
		Enterprises
November 09-10,	Twin Arrows	NHLCO Work Session
2021	Navajo Casino	RE: MOA Signing with
2021	Resort	CHOICE Humanitarian
	Resort	
		and (9)-nine Former Bennett Freeze Area
		Chapter Managers and
Name and a second	NIII CO	Officials NA CONTRACTOR A
November 22,	NHLCO	Meeting with NEXTERA
2021	5: 5 !	
November 24,	Fire Rock	Meeting with NN
2021	Navajo Casino	President Mr.
		Jonathan Nez RE: ARPA
November 30,	Twin Arrows	Meeting with NN
2021	Navajo Casino	President Mr.
	Resort	Jonathan Nez,
		Executive Directors,
		and NNC RDC
		Committee Members
		RE: One Stop Shop
December 07,	Teleconference	Meeting with DOJ,
2021		OPVP RE: NHLC Special
		Meeting
December 08,	Scottsdale, AZ	Meeting with
2021		Medallion, NN DED,
		NNC Delegate NHLC
		Chair Mr. Otto Tso RE:
		Tuba City Hotel Project
December 15,	Twin Arrows	Meeting with NEXTERA
2021	Navajo Casino	and NN Vice-President
	Resort	Mr. Myron Lizer
December 21-22,	Window Rock,	Division Directors
2021	AZ	Meeting with NN
		President Mr.
		Jonathan Nez RE:
		Nahata Plan
December 23,		Meeting with Suart
2021		Smits, NN Vice
		President Mr. Myron
		Lizer, NNDOJ Cynthia
		Freeman RE: Bisti Solar
		Freeman NE. Distr Sold

Date Submitted:
OPVP - Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office
5-Jan-21

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
GENERAL FUND	GENERAL FUND	10/01/21 to 09/30/22	\$492,006	\$492,006	\$390,587.01	79.39%	5 - PERMANENT 1 - TEMPORARY	NONE

### Office of Hearing and Appeals

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

- 1. Still conducting hearings on a monthly basis for Departments with one (1) Hearing Officer on board.
- 2. We are still able to conduct hearings on a monthly basis with the one (1) Hearing Officer who is currently the only one here taking on the caseload of the previous hearing officer.
- 3. The ERICSA organization asked OHA to get involved with their program planning about 11/2 year ago to be the voice for Native American Programs. ERICSA still acknowledges OHA's Admin. Assistant as the ongoing member after the retirement of Chief Hearing Officer R. Nez.

### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. The biggest barrier we face is with the Department of Personnel and how slow paperwork is completed at that level.
- 2. Now a big challenge we face is the shortage of supplies here at the office. This office is in need of ink for the printers, we have been out since the beginning of December and we requested assistance of OPVP office to either purchase the needed ink. Presently we use jump drives to download paperwork that need to be printed and ask nearby offices if they can help us out. It will get to a point where the offices will not help with printing our paperwork.
- 3. Another big obstacle that will be hitting us hard is the equipment that OHA is currently using. DIT and another individual have informed OHA that our equipment is very outdated and once they go out its final. DIT has problems with our equipment that they refuse to work on them when a problem arises.

Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report									
Department Name: Date Submitted:	Office of Hearings an	d Appeals							
Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies	
General	Office of Hearings & Appeals	10/1/21 - 9/30/22	507,033	507,033	458,185	9.63	5	1	

### Office of Management and Budget

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

Budget Section: Prepared fund balance carryover memorandums for divisions/programs for Year End 2021. Worked on closing out the FY21 budgets and start FY22 budget season. Reviewed budget transfers, 164 reviews, budgets, and prepare memorandums when needed. Completed/entered the FY22 Budget successfullyl into FMIS with only minimum staff which resulted in long work hours and some weekend work.

#### Contract and Grants Section:

US Treasury CARES Act: Twenty-two (22) Business Units with balances in the amount of \$312,574,638.32 were reallocated to Hardship Assistance account, K201520.

US Treasury American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA): NN President allocated \$16,500,000 balance was reallocated to Hardship 3 per resolution CD-61-21 for de-funded CARES Act Projects and Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) Projects. Twenty-two Projects have been given business units. Still waiting for fourteen (14) Programs.

USDOJ Grants- Frozen: Due to Audit Report No. GR-60-15-015 of September 2015 conducted by Office of Inspector General (OIG) the Nation has been put on "high risk". Now several USDOJ Grants have a frozen account on the Grants Management System (GMS) because the Nation is not in compliance. Therefore, the Nation cannot drawdown funds from GMS. There is only one more funding to be cleared, then the Nation can draw down funds.

Indirect Cost (IDC)- FY 2021 ICRP: As of September 25, 2020, the Nation has contracted with MGT, Inc., on calculating the FY 2021 to FY 2024 IDC Rate Proposal. FY 2021 and 2022 was agreed and executed on December 3, 2021 following Nabikiyati Committee approval.

P.L. 93-638 I.H.S. Contracted Programs - All three (3) Contracts have been awarded on December 28, 2021.

IHS Contracted Programs will begin their Close-out due to HEHSC directing Programs to reduce business units and zero out contracts. CGS will ensure Programs comply with FY'14 BIPM Appendix R Section V. I. ii. CGS has met on this issue and business prior to FY'16 will carry-forward the monies to FY'16 (with the old CFDA No.). For FY'17 and after, Programs will FIFO amounts. Recommendation is a meeting with OOC to establish guidelines for FIFO.

Management and Policy Section: Finalized and issued 3 management reports for 4th Quarter of FY 2021: 1.) Conditions of Appropriations; 2.) Plans of Operation; 3.) Program Assessment. MPS

Analyst completed the evaluation of their Assigned program PAS (Budget Form 2) for FY 2021 4<sup>th</sup> report compilation to be distributed to the programs/depts.

Systems Section: Provided assistance with hardware, software, network, and took on additional responsibilities for the Administration Section total assistance was 500+

Administration Section: Total Documents Logged IN: 1,097 (505 incoming mail, 349 Budget Transfers, 243 Logged in 164 Review Documents ) and 292 Logged OUT 164 Review Documents, 804 eDocuments, 900+ received phone calls.

The FY 2022 budget was successfully set-up and ready for use by all on 10/1/2021.

The budget resolution authorized a number of carry overs (87 Business Units) in the amount of \$17.8 million. All programs are now doing budgets for their allocations.

The Navajo Nation American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, as approved by Navajo Nation Council and President, are being developed by fund expenditure plans and budgets. OMB is involved in the this process.

### **CHALLENGES**

Budget Section: Working with only 4 staff in Budget Section (6 budgeted positions) and new monies coming in from different fund sources. Lack of training needed in our areas of work. Need to keep current on changes. Hard to find qualified applicants, advertised for two vacancies: Budget Officer and Senior Budget Analyst.

Overall, there has been nine (9) vacancies for most of the quarter so OMB has been working at 60% staffing capacity. This affects the work product so more time is needed and longer hours are needed to complete jobs.

Administration Section: The Administrative Service Officer and the Office Specialist positions are both vacant and the Office Assistant along with the Principal Programmer Analyst had to take on the job duties which entails working on Tribal Grants, Employee documents, New Hires, Job Vacancy, Timesheet, and all additional work. Much of the work is logging in all documents for all Navajo Nation Programs.

OMB has been "temporarily" relocated from Administration Building One to the Navajo Nation Museum since October, 2019. Now more than two (2) years later OMB does not have full resources and the workplace to do our jobs well. The regular OMB workplace was to be fixed within six (6) months, but now over 27 months.

The 164 B and Executive Order document review process remains unclear. As a result, documents are reviewed inconsistently causing some problems. OMB has recommended to DOJ and OPVP that this should be corrected soon.

### Office of Miss Navajo Nation

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

- 1. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation secured several financial sponsorships for the reigning Miss Navajo Nation to initiate and complete her 30/60/90 days project goals and objectives. A majority of Miss Navajo Nation projects were delivered as Virtual Events. She has completed six (6) virtual events such as the Spooky Treats, Pumpkin Craving, Halloween Costume Fashion Show, Hat & Gloves Drive, Toys Drive, and Gingerbread House Contest. Miss Navajo Nation continues to provide Awareness or highlight significant events such as Suicide Prevention, Bullying Awareness, Lunar Eclipse, Native American Heritage, Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention, and Veterans' Day.
- 2. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation hired Mrs. Shoanyah Karlsson for the Office Specialist position on October 11, 2021. This position had been vacant since March 2021. Mrs. Karlsson's work has already made a positive impact for operational management such that OMNN has sufficient Chaperone coverage for the reigning Miss Navajo Nation. OMNN also hired Miss Oshkaillan Iron Shell as an Intern/Office Assistant for 5 months. OMNN has provided hands-on training, and additional resources, materials and information which are provided free tuition and online.
- 3. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation has secured a monthly Cooking Show series with Navajo Nation TV and Film (NNTVF) office. This Cooking show is a working collaboration with Navajo Nation Special Diabetes, University of Arizona Health Education, and NNTVF to provide demonstration, information and resources to Navajo families to begin healthier lifestyle and wellness approach in combatting Type 2 Diabetes. The reigning Miss Navajo has completed 2 episodes demonstrating Navajo Traditional food that consists of natural "homemade" ingredients use by our Navajo elders. The Navajo Special Diabetes program provides the exercise programs for all age groups. The University of Arizona is providing the research for Nutritional Facts, and they'll submitting the Nutritional Fact information to State of Arizona Food Administration to incorporate into School Meal Programs. NNTVF is providing the Media Production, Rehearsals, and Film Editing. The OMNN is responsible for delivering a written script for each episodes.
- 4. The Office of Miss Navajo Nation secured financial sponsorship for the Haiigo Nanitiin Winter Conference to be broadcasted on KGAK radio station for 2 hours on December 22, and 23, 2021. The Winter Conference was featured on Miss Navajo Nation's Facebook site. OMNN received positive feedbacks on the Story of White Shell Woman, Navajo Constellations, Tsiiyeel Demonstrations and Navajo String Game demonstration. This is

- the first time an extensive sharing of stories were featured on Local Radio Station and Facebook.
- 5. Program Improvement: the Office of Miss Navajo Nation (OMNN) hired an Office Specialist on October 11, 2021. Mrs. Shoanyah Karlsson is lateral transfer from the Office of the Controller. Mrs. Karlsson was provided an orientation and trained on invitation calendar scheduling, Chaperone duties, and her daily work duties and responsibilities as Office Specialist. She has assisted with resolving several outstanding vendors payment issues from the Annual Pageant. She has been excellent asset to OMNN program.
- 6. Program Improvement: the Office of Miss Navajo Nation improved the calendar scheduling for Miss Navajo Nation's acceptance or declining an invitation. The Department of Information Technology established a "work" drop box, so each OMNN staff can view the received invitations for Miss Navajo Nation with remarks and action details so each invitation is properly reviewed, addressed, and/or considered by Miss Navajo Nation.
- 7. Program Improvement: the Office of Miss Navajo Nation hired an Intern for 5 months. Fort Defiance Workforce Development requested a meeting to accept participant worksite assignment. OMNN accepted Miss Oshkaillah Iron Shell accepted a Workforce Development's participant form to provide hands-on training, resources and worksite for Ms. Iron Shell. Ms. Iron Shell has attended all mandatory trainings, FEMA trainings, and Financial Management Information System (FMIS) training modules. OMNN is waiting for Ms. Iron Shell's access and password credentials to begin using online procurement and FMIS. Ms. Iron Shell is receiving extensive hands-on training on Customer Services, Time Event Management, and Photography. She has attended several events with Miss Navajo Nation to take photos for social media.

#### **CHALLENGES**

OMNN is still resolving several outstanding payments from the 2021 Annual Miss Navajo Nation Pageant. Several Purchase Orders were automatically deletely by the Office of the Controller (OOC) due to year end deadline of September 30, 2021. However, OMNN collected all invoices and receipts from vendors and submitted all of the Receiving Records to the OCC to issue vendors' payments prior to September 30, 2021 deadline. OMNN has appropriately address the matter with OCC and respectively its department sections.

One vendor is frustrated in not receiving her payment of \$400.00. The vendors' document and relevant information has been submitted to OOC several times and as of today (01-05-2022)

OOC has not issued a check to the vendor. The vendor delivered items to OMNN on August 20, 2021, and OMNN has submitted the payment request to OOC the same day, and OOC has not provided any feedback to OMNN if additional information is needed to complete the payment.

The Office of Miss Navajo Nation needs additional funding for the remainder fiscal year 2022 for Program Operations, Miss Navajo Nation Projects that in progress or planning phase (30/60/90 days), and 2022 Annual Miss Navajo Nation Pageant activites and events. Additional funding would significantly improved program deliverables within fiscal year 2022.

### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION**

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location:	Event Name:	Number(s) Reached:	Type of Activities & Outcome (Brief Summary)
09-24-2021 to 10-01-2021	OMNN Facebook	Native American Day	7.9K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation shared and delivered an inspirational
				message on significant meaning of Native American Day.
10-01-2021 to 10-31-2021	Schools and OMNN	Native Heritage Month/Indigeno	37.6K worldwide	Miss Navajo Nation visited seven (7) schools to delivered stories on
	Facebook	us People's Day	viewership	importance of embracing and encouraage Native youths to
				begin identifying their Native Heritage/linkages. Miss Navajo
				Nation completed a video messaging on "Being Indigenous" featured on OMNN Facebook
10-01-2021 to 10-31-2021	Schools and OMNN	Red Ribbon	5K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation encouraged students and individuals to
	Facebook			choose living a healthier lifestyle, to recognize that Alcohol & Drugs are serioius addictions that's
				negatively impacting our homes, lives, and economy.
10-11-2021	OMNN Facebook	Bullying Awareness &	1.7k viewers	Miss Navajo Nation and Department of Behavorial Health
		Prevention		Services collaborated on video messaging on Bullying Awareness & Prevention measures.
10-23-2021	OMNN Facebook	Spooky Treats	1.5K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation made halloween treats that youth can make with their siblings and parents.
10-30-2021	OMNN Facebook	Pumpling Carving	2.3K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation and 2021- 2022 Miss Indian Arizona demonstrated craving techniques
				and creativity while craving a pumpkin.
10-31-2021	OMNN Facebook	Halloween Costume Fashion Show	3.2K viewers	OMMN, Miss Navajo Nation & First Things First hosted the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Halloween Costume
				Fashion Show for children ages 0 to 5 years old. We had over 20 entries and each child was given a prize.
11-18-2021	OMNN Facebook	Lunar Eclipse	12.9 K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation completed a video message on the Significance of a Lunar Eclipse and How to honor and practice the customs

				still practice by our Navajo elders when sacred Natural occurances
				happen.
11-24-2021	OMNN Facebook	Cooking Show Esp 1	4.8K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation demonstrated How to prepare, cook and serve Chilchin (Sumac Berry Mush). Special Diabetes shared with audience different levels of exercises programs and how to incorporate exercising into daily life.
11-26-2021	OMNN Facebook	Family Day	1.6K viewers	Miss Navajo Nation and Dept. of Behavorial Health Services delivered a video message to audience on Importance of Family Day and making time with our elders at home. Encouraged people to stay home and winterize preparation. Encouraged youth to help elders with essential tasks such as cooking, cleaning, and chopping wood.
12-22-2021 and 12-23-2021	KGAK Radio Station and OMNN Facebook	Haiigo Nanitiin Winter Conference	2.6k viewers on 12/22/21, and 4.8k viewers on 12/23/21	Miss Navajo Nation hosted this winter conference featuring the Story of White Shell Woman, Story of Navajo Constellations, Tsiiyeel Demonstrations and Navajo Strings Game.
12-24-2021	OMNN Facebook	Cooking Show Esp. 2	827 viewers	Miss Navajo Nation demonstrated How to prepare, cook and serve a Turkey. Special Diabetes shared with audience different exercises for entire family members.
12-06-2021 to 12-17-2021	NACE store locations & NN Museum	Hats & Gloves Drive, and Toy Drive	200 Hats & Gloves collected, and 250 toys collected	OMNN and Miss Navajo Nation distributed toys to Naomi House, St. Michaels Assoc. for Special Education, Hogan Hozhoni, Manuelito Navajo Children Home. We also delivered Hats & Gloves to Guy Gorman residents, and Genesis' residents in Gallup. OMNN mailed toys to 2020 & 2021 Halloween Costume entries, and the 2021 Gingerbread entries.

Department Name: Office of Miss Navajo Nation
Date Submitted: 1/5/22

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General	General Funds	10/1/21-09/30/22	204,836	205,335.44	156,348.51	76.14%	3	0

### Office of Navajo Public Defender

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

#### **Duties:**

Provide criminal defense representation to indigent clients, adults and children, in 13 district/family courts plus the Supreme Court. Clients include at risk youthful offenders, adults suffering from addictions, mental illness, PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), traumatic brain injury, domestic violence and the like. Work diligently to assist the clients and sometimes their families to obtain treatment, counseling services, etc.

The above duties were performed up until offices were closed March 16, 2020. However, at present, Practitioners participate telephonically to represent clients in arraignments, motion and bail hearings, sentencing hearings and federal detainer/rendition or extradition hearings. Public defenders are also able to settle some cases or obtain dismissals.

Provide criminal defense representation to indigent clients, adults and children, in 13 district/family courts plus the Supreme Court. Clients include at-risk youthful offenders, adults suffering from addictions, mental illness, PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), traumatic brain injury, domestic violence and the like. Work diligently to assist the clients and sometimes their families to obtain treatment, counseling services, etc.

ONPD staff represented one (1) individual in the Navajo Nation Supreme Court. Case was dismissed due to the district court granting relief requested by public defender motions. ONPD has one (1) case pending appeal hearing in the Supreme Court.

ONPD staff have participated by telephone only with no in-person hearings, i.e., trials until the courts are set up to ensure the safety of attendees.

### **CHALLENGES**

The number one major challenge is the lack of sufficient staffing, besides the Director, there are only 3 attorneys and 2 court advocates, to serve clients with diligent and quality service in a timely manner. The program has been advertising through DPM for a Senior Attorney and a Senior Tribal Court

Advocate. Recruitment of professional legal staff is a major challenge throughout the tribal government not just ONPD. Two attorney positions approved in FY-22 Budget will be advertised during second quarter. These positions are funded for six (6) months.

Cases were also continued because of the Covid-19 shut down and inability to meet with or represent clients in their hearings. Clients are also remaining at home during this period. Contacts with clients and court hearings are mostly conducted by phone.

Five (5) positions are vacant at present which includes four (4) attorneys and one (1) Legal Secretary. There are only five (5) full time practitioners who work in fourteen (14) courts across the Navajo Nation. Because of the shutdown, there are some courts who have continued cases and there is also a limited number of prosecutors who are handling cases by phone. Public Defender staff have provided contact information to court staff and are also working in the office. Work at home is very limited and is only approved for professional staff.

A major challenge is insufficient staffing and office space to provide public defender services in every district similar to Prosecution. This has been ongoing since this program was established. A request for physical relocation of the office was made on December 7, 2021.

### Office of the President and Vice President FY2022 Quarterly Budget Report

Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Fund	10/1/21 - 12/31/21	1,476,060				15	**5

\*\*As of 10/01/2021, there are 5 vacant positions: 1 Senior Attorney, Tuba City; 1 Senior Tribal Court Advocate, Window Rock; 1 Legal Secretary, Shiprock; 1 Attorney Shiprock; 1 Attorney Window Rock

Department Name: Office of Navajo Public Defender

Date Submitted:

\* First quarter report.

## Office of the Navajo Tax Commission

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

- 1. ONTC met and exceeded the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Revenue Projections.
- 2. Amendments to 1) Sales Tax Statute and 2) Uniform Tax Administration Statutes is in the Legislative Process. Final approval requires Navajo Nation Council approval.
- 3. ONTC hired an Office Specialist to oversee the records/file room.

### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. Health Command Office Center (HCOC) and NN travel restrictions is limiting taxpayers audits.
- 2. Executive Director and Senior Minerals Assessment Specialist positions are vacated and need to be advertised.
- 3. ONTC Compliance Department has six staff positions budgeted. There are currently three (3) vacancies. One staff member tested positive for COVID-19 and was out of the office for two weeks. This put a heavy burden on the two remaining staff to process the Fuel Excise Tax Licenses for 2022 and the Liquor Licenses for 2022.
- 4. ONTC Accounting Department has two staff positions budgeted. One staff member tested positive for COVID-19 which put a heavy burden on the accounting staff to keep current on processing the daily checks to be deposited. The Accounting Department is currently behind by seven weeks on processing and depositing the checks.

Department Name: Office of the Navajo Tax Commission

1/5/22

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External		Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General Fund	ONTC	FY 2022	1464322	1526852.32	1274762.22	83.49%	19	5

### Office of the Controller

- I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- II. CHALLENGES
- III. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

1. OOC has submitted the CARES Fund quarterly expenditure report to the US Treasury on 10/12/2021 for the 07/01/2021-09/30/2021 disbursements. The next quarterly reporting deadline is 01/12/2022 for the 10/01/2021-12/31/2021 disbursements. Listed below summarizes the CARES Fund activities as of 12/31/2021:

Appropriated by the US Treasury: \$714,189,631 Money Market Interest Earned: \$332,885 Total Expended: (698,022,516) Unspent Balance: \$16,500,000

Per CD-61-21, the \$16,500,000 was reallocated to 48,227 previous hardship recipients 60 and over. As of 12/31/21, a hardship assistance amount of \$342.13 was encumbered to each of the 48,277 senior age 60 and over.

- 2. OOC will continue to provide the financial status report on the CARES funds until the Fund is fully expended to the Office of the President/Vice President and Navajo Nation Council.
- 3. On November 10, 2021, the 7-member bid evaluation team selected KPMG to audit the Navajo Nation financial statements for FY2021, FY2022, and FY2023. The professional services contract between the Navajo Nation and KPMG is currently under review by Navajo Nation DOJ and KPMG attorneys.
- 4. The Office of the Controller is working on the efficient distribution of the ARPA Hardship assistance to approximately 345,000 eligible Navajos impacted by COVID-19. Of this number, approximately 320,000 have previously received the CARES Act Hardship Assistance and automatically qualify to receive ARPA Hardship assistance without reapplying. This leaves approximately 25,000 new applicants for ARPA Hardship.
- 5. The Office of the Controller has drafted the Request for Proposals to automate the following processes that are currently handled manually:
  - Expense Management automate the submission of travel expense reports
  - Document Tracking develop a portal that will track all documents submitted to the Office of the Controller

• Procure-to-Pay – automate the requisitioning, purchasing, receiving, paying for, and accounting for goods and services

### **CHALLENGES**

1. Limited staff – OOC has vacant accountant positions that are considered hard to fill positions within the Navajo Nation.

No office space - OOC has proposed to hire 36 new personnel that will process the FRF financial transactions. However, OOC does not have available office space to house the new personnel. In addition, 19 Hardship Program temporary employees working at DODE auditorium were displaced due to the closure of the building. OOC is not observing social distancing at the workplace.

#### Office of the President and Vice President FY 2022 1st Quarterly Budget Report

Department Name:	Office of the Controller	
Date Submitted:	7-Jan-21	
V.		

Fund Type: General, External, Prior Year External	Fund Name	Fund Period	Original Amount	Revised Amount	Budget Balance	Percent Balance	Budgeted Positions	Current Budget Vacancies
General	ooc	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	6,472,193.00	7,344,519.78	5,417,917.57	26.2%	94	17
General	Purchasing	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	733,449.00	734,449.00	639,994.36	12.9%	12	1
General	Property	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	640,900.00	640,900.00	513,559.86	19.9%	16	3
Permanent	Permanent	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	18,967,347.00	22,772,914.51	16,721,038.23	26.6%	6	2
Proprietary	Home loan	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	420,000.00	440,000.00	364,519.37	17.2%	13	2
Proprietary	Personal Loan	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	420,000.00	421,000.60	375,856.61	10.7%	14	2
Proprietary	Supply Center	10/1/21 to 9/30/22	200,000.00	200,000.00	132,974.21	33.5%	4	1
						Total	159	28